

Bay Area Reporter

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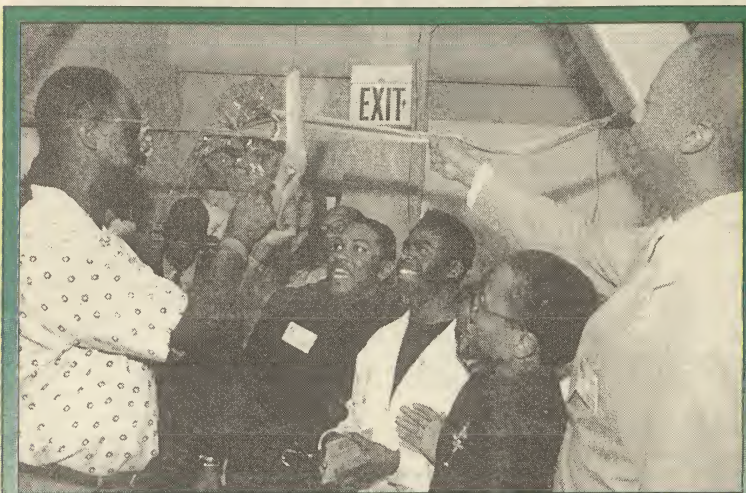


Photo: Rick Gerhart

Prime Cut

National AIDS Task Force Executive Director Randy Miller cuts the lavender ribbon to open the new home of The Brothers Network March 17. Entertainment and a sumptuous soul food buffet welcomed over 100 people to the Market Street offices of these advocates for gay men of color.

KSFO Retracts AIDS Information

by Al Kielwasser, Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation

In a concession to demands by AIDS activists, station management at KSFO - San Francisco's new "all-talk, all-conservative" radio station - agreed to "target virtually all of our audience with accurate information on HIV/AIDS."

To that end, the station broadcast a statement in which KSFO Operations Director Jack Swanson said, "Several weeks ago one of our hosts [former

KSFO deejay J. Paul Emerson] stated that he believed we should consider placing individuals with HIV/AIDS in quarantine because he believed there was evidence showing that the virus could be spread by coughing or sneezing. ... The truth is you have nothing to worry about from casual contact with someone who has HIV/AIDS. That's the opinion of the overwhelming majority of medical experts, and San Francisco Public Health Director Sandra Hernandez."

The spot also included a brief statement by Hernandez, and concluded: "The management of KSFO Radio believes your chances of contracting HIV/AIDS through any casual contact proba-

Continued on page 3

Anti-Gay Bias Suits Allowed

by Dennis Conkin

Lesbian and gay workers who want to sue for anti-gay job bias may do so even if they have no statutory claims under state labor codes, a California State Appeal Court has effectively ruled.

The March 9 decision by the San Francisco I district of the Court reinstates the 1992 anti-gay discrimination lawsuit filed by Chad Liebert, an openly gay bill collector, against Transworld Systems, Inc.

Transworld, a Rohnert Park bill collection agency, had successfully sought dismissal of Liebert's suit by a Superior Court on the grounds that he was fired after repeated warnings about losing his temper and had been previously suspended for insubordinate conduct.

Liebert was terminated for allegedly yelling at a receptionist at the collection agency.

Liebert charged in his lawsuit that he was actually fired after his boss called him a fag and derisively portrayed him to other workers as an effeminate sweater queen.

According to Liebert's attorney Paul Wotman, the owner of the company told

Continued on page 16



Attorney Paul Wotman

Able Ruling Expected in Weeks

by Bob Roehr

Lawyers arguing the *Able* case rested on Thursday, March 16, after three days of "Do ask, Do tell" in a federal courtroom in Brooklyn, New York. The case found six active duty and reserve servicemembers mounting the first legal challenge to the "new" ban on gays and lesbians serving in the military.

Judge Eugene Nickerson's opinion is expected by the end of March; that unusually fast decision is mandated by an earlier ruling by a three-member appeals panel of the Second Circuit.

Most observers of Nickerson's pre-trial hearings and rulings on this case believe that he will strike down the ban. They also believe the case will be appealed through the federal court system, and will ultimately be decided by the U.S. Supreme Court, perhaps as early as next year.

The gay servicemembers' case was presented by lawyers for the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) and the

Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund. It had been filed a year ago, only days after regulations implementing the "new" ban went into effect, and had only now come to trial.

It went according to scripts laid out by both sides in their massive pre-trial briefs.

The gay servicemembers argued that the ban violates their constitutional rights to free speech and equal protection under the Constitution. Furthermore, it serves "no legitimate and rational government or military interest, but rather is based solely on the presumed prejudices of heterosexual service members and civilians."

They maintained that the ban is based on fears of straights, not by the inability of gays and lesbians to serve openly. They made the comparison with earlier baseless fears of integrating first African-Americans and now women into military operations.

Lawyers for the Clinton administration's Departments of Defense and Justice maintained that changing the policy could damage military effectiveness.

They pointed to the legislative record which "abundantly demonstrates a ratio-

nal basis for the new policy." The military needs "unit cohesion," Congress and the President have determined that gays would be disruptive to that "cohesion," and therefore should be kept out of the service.

Pro-gay attorneys challenged that presumption of rationality. They brought in a series of expert witnesses, several of whom, at the request of the Pentagon, had prepared a series of studies on gays in the military. The brass subsequently ignored those studies because they did not like the recommendations.

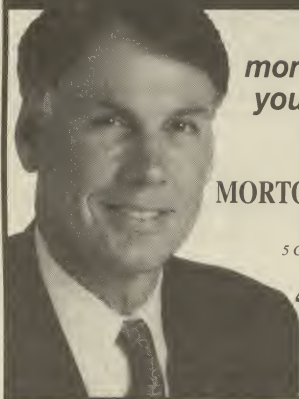
They also challenged "the edits and proposed edits, both made and abandoned, [which] call into serious question the reliability and the purpose of the Act's 'legislative record.'"

"Deference to Congress does not mean that a federal court addressing a constitutional challenge to a congressional enactment is barred from looking behind the factual assertions in congressional finding, considering facts outside the official 'legislative history,' and assessing the validity of those findings in order to make a determination as to the constitutional legitimacy of the challenged enactment," the plaintiffs' attorneys wrote. ▼

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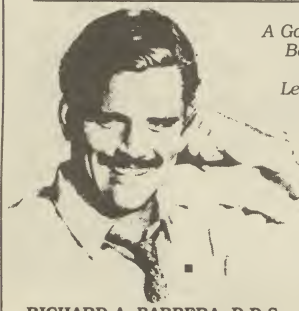
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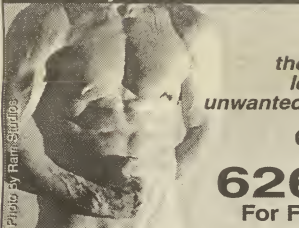
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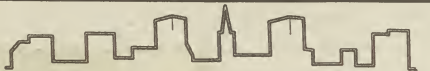
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COMMUNITY NEWS

Will Charges Be Filed Against AIDS Benefit Organizer?

D.A., Lawyer Meet To Discuss New Year's Party

by Dennis Conkin

Lesbian leader and civil rights attorney Nanci Clarence met with District Attorney Arlo Smith on Tuesday, March 21 over reports that prosecutors may seek criminal charges against Terence Alan, the organizer of the South of Market New Year's AIDS benefit raided by police.

Alan may be charged by the District Attorney's office with violations of fire codes and other infractions stemming from the event.

Clarence declined to discuss details of the 9 a.m. meeting with Smith. "It was a productive meeting. He invited me and I agreed to meet because I think it's a good idea to hear the other side out," she said.

Clarence also declined to comment on who attended the meeting with Smith, but the *Bay Area Reporter* has learned that the meeting included Assistant District Attorney Candace Heisler and investigator Dennis Collins.

"It was a cordial meeting," Collins told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "The two sides met to discuss a variety of legal matters stemming from the incident," he said.

Like Clarence, he also declined to discuss details of the meeting.

No decision has been reached on whether charges will be filed against Alan, but Clarence — and other gay leaders — have put the District Attorney's office on notice that they believe such actions would constitute "selective enforcement" and promise a vigorous defense.

"It remains to be seen if criminal charges will be filed," Clarence told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "If there are, I can guarantee that there is not going to be a genteel and polite response. There will be a

fight and blood will be left on the floor," Clarence said.

Clarence disputed characterizations that code or permit violations Alan could be charged with are mere infractions.

"Don't tell me it's not a big deal. It is a big deal. He would have to appear before a judge. They are criminal charges, and ordinary citizens don't like being prosecuted," Clarence said.

Clarence wasn't the only lesbian or gay leader reacting to the possibility that Alan may be charged.



Terence Alan

A spokesman for Supervisor Tom Ammann told the *Bay Area Reporter* he suggested that recent testimony before a board of supervisor's subcommittee about alleged police abuse at the New Year's Eve event was compelling—and the matter is before the Office of Citizen Complaints.

"Until their decisions come out, I think it would be unwise to take such a step," Housch told the *Bay*

Area Reporter.

"No complaint has been filed. There are no charges and we have not sought a warrant," Heisler said. "It's in the investigative stages only," she said.

A decision by the District Attorney's office is not expected for at least two weeks. ▼

Charges Against Officers Deemed Likely New Year's Raid Probe Passed to OCC

by Dennis Conkin

An internal police investigation that indicates possible misconduct by police officers during a controversial New Year's raid of a private AIDS benefit has been turned over to the Office of Citizen Complaints, according to Deputy Chief Thomas Petrini.

Interview tapes from that investigation will be used by the Office of Citizen Complaints as it probes civilian complaints that police used excessive force and anti-gay slurs when they shut down the event at 4 a.m. on New Year's Day.

Petrini made the announcement during a March 15 Police Commission meeting.

"Apparently, there are indications that somewhere down the line charges may be brought against individual officers," said Police Commissioner Wayne Friday.

Petrini said that no formal complaints were ever lodged with the management control division by patrons of the event.

The investigation was ordered by Chief of Police Anthony Ribera after scores of partygoers accused police of brutality and anti-gay slurs against patrons at the event.

"To coin a phrase, I'm glad they finally copped to the charges," quipped Supervisor Tom Ammann.

The police New Year's Eve action was the subject of a hearing before the health, public safety and environment commit-

tee of the board of supervisors.

Organizers insist that the benefit, attended by more than 500 people, was a private event, but police say The Other New Year's Ball at 938 Harrison site was actually an illegal nightclub operating without permits.

Eleven people were arrested by police on charges ranging from resisting arrest to possession of narcotics after they arrived at the site and ordered it closed.

The misconduct charges include allegations that police choked one partygoer into unconsciousness during his arrest, gouged the eyes of another patron, hit people in the face, and refused to identify themselves or display their badges during the fracas.

More than 70 members of the police department, from officers called to the scene to Southern Station police personnel responsible for receiving people arrested and property seized, were interviewed.

State alcohol and beverage control agents who participated in the raid were interviewed, Petrini said.

Also forwarded to the Office of Citizen Complaints were policy recommendations suggested for adoption by the Police Commission as procedure during future similar police actions.

The recommendations include guidelines that future joint operations between the San Francisco Police Department and outside law

enforcement agencies will require approval at the deputy chief management level.

Such operations must have specific objectives, and outside officers must have clearly specified roles. A command officer with the rank of lieutenant or higher must also be physically present to oversee future operations of the type, Petrini said.

Two full-time OCC investigators have been assigned to investigate complaints filed by citizens—and the investigation will take at least a month, said OCC interim director John Parker.

Allegations of misconduct by state ABC agents are not under investigation by the OCC because they are outside the purview of the agency.

Critics charge that misconduct on the part of the state agents will go unsanctioned.

"Are we going to allow carpetbagger cops to come into the city and operate and then not be held accountable by civilian review?" asked attorney Nanci Clarence, who represents plaintiffs suing the city over the alleged police misconduct.

All charges against those arrested were later dropped by District Attorney Arlo Smith.

In related matters, civilian oversight of the police department will be the subject of a March 28 hearing before the board of supervisor's health, public safety and environment committee. Called by Ammann, the hearing begins at 10 a.m. ▼

COMMUNITY NEWS

White House/Leal/Gay Officials Meeting Could Happen in April

...But Without a Guarantee that Bill or Al Will Attend

by Dennis Conkin

Meetings between White House officials and elected American lesbian and gay leaders may take place as early as the middle of April, an aide to San Francisco Supervisor Susan Leal now says.

"Susan met with the White House when she was in the District of Columbia earlier in the week," Leal spokesman Bill Ambrunn told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "It was a very positive meeting with John Emerson, a White House aide."

"Although a date has not been scheduled, the middle or the end of April is what's being looked at right now," he said.

Although every lesbian and gay elected legislative official in the country has been invited to attend the meetings, only an estimated 30 or 40 people will



Susan Leal

probably attend, he said.

The agenda for the series of meetings will be developed by

the officials who will meet together - but is expected to include "general lesbian and gay issues," Ambrunn said.

Lesbian and gay leaders will meet to develop the agenda for the White House meeting shortly before the convocation, he said.

Ambrunn said the leaders hope to meet with various department heads and senior White House officials.

The White House has not been able to guarantee that either President Clinton or Vice President Gore will be able to drop by the meetings to offer a brief greeting, Ambrunn said.

The meetings were initiated by the White House and were tentatively scheduled for February, but were postponed and given a low priority after the November elections. ▼

Crypto Hearing Date Set for March 28

by Kent Brandley

A date for a hearing called by Supervisor Carole Migden to consider the possible threat of cryptosporidium in San Francisco's drinking water has been set for 10 a.m. Tuesday, March 28 before the Health Public Safety and Environment Committee of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, Migden's office said.

Steve Leonard, program manager for Hetch Hetchy water treatment project, will make a presentation based on at least three years of technical

study and effort to keep San Francisco's water safe. "Milwaukee was no surprise to us," Leonard told the *B.A.R.*

Josh Schechtel, of the Center for AIDS Prevention Studies, has also been asked to testify at the hearing, Migden's office said.

The hearing is scheduled for 10 a.m. in the Committee Room of the Board of Supervisors, 401 Van Ness Avenue, Fourth Floor. Supervisors have moved across the street from City Hall (which is undergoing extensive repairs) and are now located in the War Memorial Building. ▼

Three Demo Clubs Remember Liberation of Nazi Camps 50 Years Ago

by Kent Brandley

Three of the city's most influential Democratic clubs will join in commemorating the 50th anniversary of the liberation of Nazi concentration camps in the waning days of World War II.

On Tuesday, March 28, the Harvey Milk Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual Democratic Club, the Alice B. Toklas Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club and the Raoul Wallenberg Democratic Club will mark the liberation of the camps by sponsoring a talk by historian Gerard Koskovich entitled "The Nazi Persecution of Homosexuals: A Historical

Overview."

The commemoration begins at 7 p.m. at the Metropolitan Community Church, located at 150 Eureka Street, in the city.

Admission is free and open to the community, organizers said.

Koskovich will provide a history of homosexuality in Germany from the mid-nineteenth century through WW II, said Martha Knutzen, a lesbian who is president of the Harvey Milk Club.

Koskovich will discuss the development of a gay and lesbian culture and political movement during this period, and its destruction by the Nazis starting

in 1933, Knutzen added.

Koskovich will also describe the experience of gay men and lesbians in the camps and their relationship between the Holocaust against the Jews and the Nazi persecution of homosexuals.

Koskovich is a scholar and a member of the Gay and Lesbian Historical Society of Northern California. He has given numerous talks on the history of homosexuality. He is also an activist focusing on police abuse of queers, Knutzen said. ▼

■ For more information contact Martha Knutzen at (415) 647-5421.

KSFO

Continued from page 1

bly rates right up there with getting hit on the head with a meteorite. And if anything you heard on KSFO led you to believe otherwise, we are sorry."

The station's listener service number (415 954-8183) was provided as a tag line; Swanson encouraged listeners to call "and we'll make sure you get the latest information on HIV/AIDS. What you know, could save your life."

Activists are discouraged, however, since KSFO is still dedicated to a "HotTalk" format that showcases homophobic, racist, and classist diatribes. A listener reported that KSFO host Michael Savage recently wished, on-air, that all of the lesbian/gay activists protesting the station would

"drop dead from AIDS." Savage regularly characterizes those who challenge his homophobia as "the gay Mafia."

Savage is particularly upset by media activists who contact KSFO's advertisers directly, encouraging these businesses to distance themselves from hate talk radio, a measure of how effective that strategy has been.

Several companies have decided that it's bad business to have their products associated with homophobic broadcasts, and have pulled their KSFO advertising accounts. Most recently, management of the Armstrong Painting & Roofing Company, located at 774 Harrison Street in the city, publicly affirmed "the decision not to advertise on KSFO."

"Please be assured our sponsorship of their programming has been terminated," the company stated. ▼

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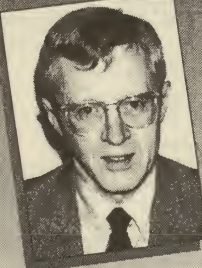
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COMMUNITY NEWS

Seattle Mike Case Starts April 12

by Kent Brandley

Once again, the criminal case of "Seattle Mike" has been temporarily delayed. Assistant District Attorney George Beckwith said Michael Raab had been "set for preliminary hearing on April 12 in Department 20."

Eleven different complainants in the case — mostly

older men who met Raab in bars and arcades in the Polk Street and Castro Street vicinities — allege that he accompanied them home and subsequently robbed them. One victim says Raab used a "stun gun" on him, and others say they were threatened at knifepoint.

If convicted, Raab faces 20 years in prison.

The latest delay in bringing the

case to trial, Beckwith told the *Bay Area Reporter*, was necessary because of the time required to produce copies of 911 tapes subpoenaed by Raab's defense.

Raab remains in custody, and bail remains at \$100,000, Beckwith added.

Mark Goldrosen, who continues as Raab's court-appointed attorney, said he had no comment at this time. ▼

Secret Agent Man Gay Former FBI Agent at MCC

by Dennis Conkin

Openly gay former FBI special agent Frank Buttino will speak at two Metropolitan Community Church/Golden Gate events in April.

Buttino is the 20 year veteran undercover and counterintelligence special agent who filed a class action lawsuit against the agency in 1990 after it revoked his security clearance and fired him when it discovered he was gay.

In December 1993, as Buttino's lawsuit was underway in federal District Court in San Francisco, U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno issued a groundbreaking declaration prohibiting anti-gay discrimination within any agency of the Department of Justice, including the FBI.

In a successful settlement of the suit, Buttino accepted partial restoration of his pension rights, payment of his legal fees and a statement from the FBI that praised his record as an agent. He did not rejoin the agency.

As part of the suit's settlement, the FBI also agreed to hire openly gay and lesbian agents, and about half a dozen agents have since come out as gay and lesbian.

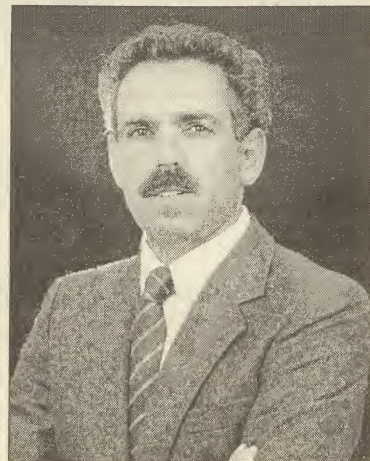
Buttino remains a popular figure in the lesbian and gay community, according to Linton Stables, executive director of the MCC parish.

"He was scheduled to speak once before a few months ago, but his father died and we weren't able to cancel in time. A couple of hundred people showed up to hear him speak. People in the community are very excited about this," Stables told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

Buttino is a frequent speaker on college campuses and to corporate audiences around the country.

Buttino's case is viewed as a critical gay sexual orientation landmark case because the FBI is considered the top law enforcement agency in the country.

Buttino will speak informally at MCC at 7 p.m.



Frank Buttino

on Saturday, April 1, with questions and answers taken during the talk. He will speak again at the MCC evening service on Sunday April 2 at 7 p.m.

Buttino will sign copies of his book *A Special Agent: Gay and Inside the FBI*, which will be on sale after each event.

The book chronicles Buttino's life, his FBI career and the landmark civil rights case.

MCC is located at 150 Eureka Street between 18th and 19th Street in San Francisco. For more information call 863-4434. ▼

Alleges Her Foot Was Run Over Caregiver Loses Case, Plans Appeal

by Dennis Conkin

The attorney for an AIDS caregiver who charged that her foot was run over by a local real estate agent will ask the Municipal Court for a new trial after a jury found no liability in the case on March 15.

A motion for a new trial will be sought because the defendant's lawyer systematically excluded male jurors with male partners, said attorney Carey Silverman.

Georgette Beainy had unsuccessfully sought a civil damage award for battery, negligence, and intentional infliction of emotional distress against real estate agent C. Marla Caplan of Property Professionals.

The jury deliberated for just an hour before finding that Caplan was not liable for any damages sought by Beainy.

One juror, however, did express an opinion that Caplan's conduct toward Beainy was "outrageous" when Silverman ordered the jury polled.

Silverman also told the *Bay Area Reporter* that if the Municipal Court did not set

aside the verdict in the case and order a new trial, he would take the case to an appellate court.

"The conduct of the defense counsel was discriminatory on its face," Silverman said of the exclusion of jurors.

Caplan's attorney, Cynthia Clark of Bennett and Yee, was not immediately available to respond to Silverman's claim.

During the trial, Caplan testified that the incident never happened and that she would never display her middle finger to Beainy as charged because she is "a professional."

Beainy, a member of the board of directors of Most Holy Redeemer Roman Catholic Church's AIDS Support Group, and Harry Johnson, a member of the Catholic Charities board of directors, both charged that Caplan had run over Beainy's foot following a 1993 altercation over a Diamond Heights condo parking space.

An arbitrator had awarded Beainy \$7,500 for her claim, but Caplan's insurer California State Automobile Association rejected the non-binding award

and the case was taken to trial.

During the trial, an expert defense podiatrist testified that Beainy was not injured in the incident and questioned whether a car actually ever ran over her foot. The podiatrist received \$300 an hour for his involvement in the case.

The October 1993 incident took place when Beainy and Johnson were helping the parents of the late Andy Eubanks clean out their son's personal effects from a Diamond Heights Shanti Residence.

Caplan allegedly told Beainy that she hoped hers was the next body taken from the residence, according to Johnson and Beainy, but has denied making the statement.

Beainy's hands-on involvement and expertise as an AIDS caregiver led to her being appointed to the Most Holy Redeemer AIDS Support Group board of directors, said Lou Coloia, the group's executive director.

A decision about a new trial is expected within a month, Silverman told the *Bay Area Reporter*. ▼

NIH Funds Acupuncture/Herbal HIV-Related Sinusitis Clinical Trial in SF

Immune Enhancement Project Receives \$30K for Pilot Study

by Kent Brandley

The San Francisco-based Immune Enhancement Project has achieved the "remarkable," according to the alternative therapy clinic's director, Tom Sinclair, in getting \$30,000 from the National Institute of Health's office of Alternative Medicine to underwrite the nation's only NIH-funded HIV clinical trial.

The 12-week pilot study, already in progress at IEP, will consider acupuncture and herbs in the treatment of chronic HIV-related sinusitis.

Sinclair is a licensed acupuncturist who has been director of IEP since July, 1993. In an interview with the *Bay Area Reporter*, the openly gay Sinclair seemed a little surprised when he said the project "is actually doing a clinical trial of alternative medicine that has been recognized by the powers that be."

"Our clinic has achieved something in San Francisco that no other [alternative medicine] clinic has achieved—just getting the funding to do this study."

"Chronic sinusitis in HIV-infected individuals is a recurrent and persistent infection with potentially serious complications," Sinclair said.

Symptoms of sinusitis in the HIV-infected population often resist treatment to aggressive Western medical management, and treatment is further hindered by the high rate of antibiotic intolerance in the patients, Sinclair explained.

Clinical observations at the Immune Enhancement Project and at other clinics in San Francisco have revealed a tremendous efficacy in the use of Traditional Chinese Medicine in the treatment of sinusitis. Up until now, no studies have been conducted comparing the efficacy of Traditional Chinese Medicine and antibiotics in treating sinusitis.

"I did not anticipate it would be this difficult getting an investigational new drug [IND status] approved by the FDA."

The objective of the clinical trial is to compare Chinese Medicine with a standard antibiotic therapy in reducing symptomatology and repeated occurrence of acute symptoms,

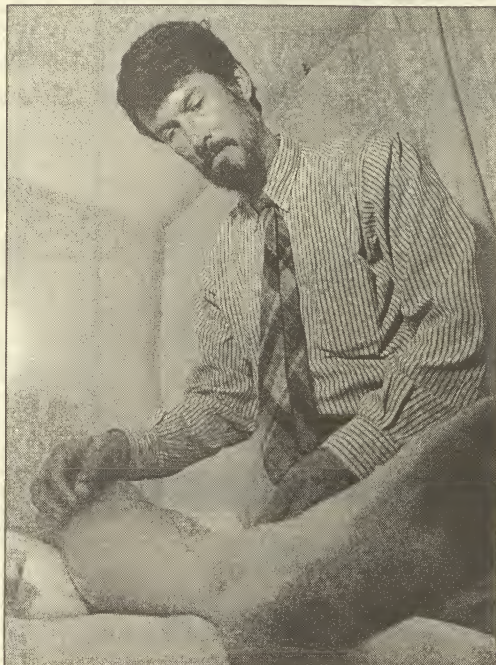


Photo: Rick Gerharter

Tom Sinclair, executive director of the IEP, "needles" a patient.

Sinclair said.

Subjects will be randomly assigned to two treatment groups, he added: traditional Chinese medical therapy and conventional antibiotic therapy.

The Immune Enhancement Project, located at 3450 16th Street, receives the bulk of its funding through the NIH office of Alternative Medicine, and a portion through the Jennifer Altman Foundation in Bolinas. It operates with a staff of six licensed acupuncturists, four licensed massage therapists, and four other support staff members. The annual budget runs around \$450,000.

"We specialize primarily in HIV, but we also are a general medical clinic," Sinclair said, "and it is a very innovative clinic." ▼

■ For two new innovative programs, see sidebar.

WHAT ELSE IS IEP UP TO?

The price of vitamins may keep nutrients out of reach of people who have debilitating illnesses like AIDS, with little or no income coming in; in other words, the population that arguably needs them most.

The Immune Enhancement Project has sought to make vitamins available to those individuals, with the establishment of an AIDS nutrient bank that provides free nutrients to a pilot group of low income — or no income — HIV-positive people.

From this pilot program now in progress, IEP hopes that a national program will be developed to dispense vitamins and minerals to needy people.

In another innovative program, San Francisco's Immune Enhancement Project is working with a Boston-based group to clinically study the effects of SPV-30™, an herbal extract derived from the European boxwood tree, according to information provided by study coordinator David Stokes.

Preliminary data suggests that SPV-30™ is not toxic, does not cause cancer, increases CD4 counts (among people who started the study with CD4 counts ranging from 250 to 500), reduces fatigue, and improves the sense of well-being. Test tube studies show that it inhibits HIV by targeting the reverse transcriptase enzyme, information provided by Stokes indicates. It has some properties suggestive of an immunosuppressive component.

Dr. Jacques Durand, M.D., head of the Infectious Diseases Department of Hospital de l'Arche in Nice, first became aware of SPV-30 through a woman who had been using it for several years. Durand determined that a specific herb in her diet was related to her maintenance of a high CD4 count.

Dr. Beth E. Mestman of Bayport, New York concluded, "These preliminary findings may suggest that the apparently non-toxic boxwood preparation has a viable role in the lives of HIV-positive individuals, as well as those with AIDS. As future data evolves and national contacts are multiplied, updated reports will be made available."

The specific material extracted from the boxwood remains a proprietary secret of the French company Arkopharma, which developed it. ▼

— by Kent Brandley

Napa Valley Academy Awards Benefit Monday

"Over the Rainbow," the seventh annual Napa Valley Academy Awards Benefit, will have supporters dancing until Midnight on Monday, March 27 in Chardonnay Hall at the Napa Valley Expo, located on the fairgrounds at 575 Third Street in downtown Napa. The event begins at 5 p.m. and continues until Midnight with tickets \$40 in advance or \$45 at the door.

The annual event will benefit HIV Network of Queen of the Valley Hospital and the Napa Valley AIDS Project. Dick Bright and SRO will provide dance music with a special appearance by Thelma Houston. For tickets or more information call (707) 257-TOTO.

—Kent Brandley

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Joe Hoover

POLITICAL EDITOR
Wayne Friday

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Dianne Aaronson, Rene M. Astudillo, Noreen C. Barnes, Erin Blackwell, John Blanco, Angela Bocage, Kate Bornstein, Michael C. Botkin, Nancy Boutlier, Philip Campbell, Katherine Collins, Jim Coughenour, M.R. Covino, Tim Farrell, Michael Flanagan, Mark Freeman, Anthony N. Hauser, Pete Hodgdon, Chad Jones, John F. Karr, Jeffery Kennedy, I.A. Kisselman, Karl Bruce Knapper, Ron Lazar, Elliott Linwood, Jason Lorber, Daniel Mangin, Mr. Marcus, Daniel Medynski, Jerry Metzker, Karen Oczak, Deborah Peiffer, Jeremy Quittner, Mary Richards, Bob Roehr, John Ross, Doug Seto, Marv Shaw, Mary Ann Swisler, Rick Thoman, Paul Thomason, Susanna Trnka, Dick Walters, Lauren Ward

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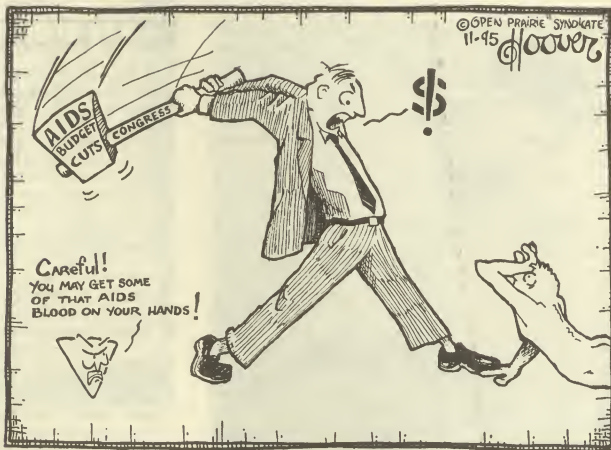
OPEN FORUM

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CARTOON



EDITORIAL

The Tooth,
The Whole Tooth...

Excuse us for introducing our own personal misery into this space, but we had some extensive and painful oral surgery recently. And, like every-

thing else these days, it has made us think of the Contract on America.

It's not too hard to see the parallels between having one's teeth ripped out and the country's infrastructure ripped apart: Gingrich and Dole and Gramm — and, to an even greater extent, other surly young white GOPs nobody had ever heard of until last November — keep sounding like eager dental students, anxious to “root out” and make “deep cuts,” despite whatever pain it may inflict.

Now, it might be true that a lot of our government needs a root canal, but we most emphatically disagree with the idea Republicans are the ones who should be going in there to do it. Whether you're talking about dentistry or economic cutbacks, delicate surgery should be performed by skillful and compassionate experts who remember their job is to improve others' health, and not just to punish them for having indulged in past sugar binges.

Of course, even in the most skillful and compassionate hands, the procedures are still painful and smelly and annoying to listen to. But in the claws of the far right, it's a nightmare. Judging from the GOP's unseemly appetite for wholesale extraction, and the hostility it unleashes upon anyone who requests or offers a second opinion, we think the much-vaunted Contract is coming off less like 20th century preventative dentistry than 19th century prison dentistry — where the procedure was simply to yank first and ask questions later.

Such is obviously the case with HOPWA funds and school lunches and other programs Republicans would like to pull like so much dead bicuspidary. When they do that, there is obviously no element of professionalism at work; it is simply the ugly sight of a bunch of big powerful guys ripping the teeth out of the less powerful.

It's made even more appalling

because of what they're leaving their children. *Why is it that we as homosexuals have to tell heterosexuals a basic truth: kids' teeth may grow back automatically, but kids' education, health, and futures don't.*

On to another topic: On Wednesday, March 15, the country of Saudi Arabia beheaded a man for the crime of committing homosexual acts. Three days later the United States Secretary of State Warren Christopher visited the country for a three day goodwill stopover.

Call us crazy, but we find it hard to harbor any good will for a country where getting head equals losing head. It sounds dangerously close to how things are progressing here at home, and we are very disappointed Christopher didn't say something to bring the matter into the open.

If he is embarrassed to speak of the outrage civilized people feel at the murder of a person because of the victim's sexuality, he is not worthy to be our secretary of state.

Of course, less and less of the government is worthy these days, in our opinion, so we urge readers to remember who pays their salaries. That should be relatively easy these days, since Tax Day is nearly here.

In past years, we have suggested writing a memo on your tax check's little “memo” space, to the effect that these tax dollars are being supplied by a homosexual for whom equal rights are denied as “special rights.” (True, it has never seemed to have a discernable effect on the way the government that takes and spends the checks treats the check's writer, but it can give a momentary sense of satisfaction just writing it down.)

Perhaps Newt and Dole and Gramm *et al* would be interested in hearing from you specifically, to learn how much you contributed to the treasury this year and to get your opinion of how much gall they have to treat us like second-class citizens.

The most elegant phrasing to that effect we ever heard, by the way, was a statement made by *Are You Being Served's* Mr. Harmon:

“I'm sure glad I don't have your nerve in my tooth.” ▼

GUEST OPINION

... Never To
Roam Again ...

by Paul A. Bonomo

I'm outta here. I've had two and a half wild years in this town that have been as up and down as the streets that pave it ... but now I'm out.

I was in a band during my time here in SF. A rock band. A rock band with all gay members. Some might say a queer punk band. We called it Fagbash. On my arrival here from Washington D.C., I naturally thought San Francisco would be the perfect place to explore and make a name for myself in the burgeoning and undefined queer music scene. I had been warned by an old boyfriend about the overwhelming politics that color so many aspects of life here, including artistic pursuits, but I was ready to dive in anyway and make something happen. Unfortunately, achieving success and respect in any band in SF, especially a queer one, just ain't that easy.

Consider the gay and lesbian “alternative community.” Fagbash has gone up against more than our share of backwards politics, misunderstanding, and BS attitude during our entire tenure as a band here.

We received constant and paranoid reactions to our band name. I refuse to explain once again the irony of Fagbash. Suffice it to say that a complete lack of a sense of humor on the part of a booking agent prevented us from playing at the Bottom of the Hill at first, as well as causing a member of MCC to refuse to enter Paula's Clubhouse on a night we were playing there because he thought we were straight homophobes — on a lesbian night at Paula's! Why would they possibly book a band that openly hated queers?

We constantly felt that people didn't “get” us, and most of the time it was merely because we didn't wear dresses and sing campy songs or write about femmes in black leather jackets. We present our sexuality the way it is: personal, honest, passionate, and sometimes dangerous.

OK, now in the interest of the truth, I willingly admit that we weren't completely without support here. Music columnists Don Baird and Adrian Roberts wrote about us, as well as (gasp!) actually coming to our shows. Matt Smith of Outpunk records gave us lots of great info on putting out our own single 7-inch, which is finally out now and available at record stores near you! Diet Popstute was always on our side and even paid us a sizeable amount of money after a Klubstutite gig at the Stud (yes, it's possible!). Eventually, we were booked at the Bottom of the Hill, thanks to Stacey and Lucas, and hosted our multi-media *Destination: Glamour* there, which will always be one of my fondest memories of living in San Francisco. And much props go out to Joan Jett Blakk for being the smartest drag queen here and for putting us on her show.

But we couldn't have done anything without our small but awesome circle of friends who have always supported us from the start (and most of whom are also tired of the attitudes in this town). To them, Fagbash says thank you and we love you.

San Francisco is awesome to look at and a great party, but when it comes to making the music we want to make, we refuse to change how we present our sexuality artistically and play stupid political games. So, on behalf of my bandmates Jim and Dave, I say *au revoir*, SF... see ya in NYC. ▼

LETTERS

Odets Responds

I have read the March 9 *Correction* for Michael Botkin's misrepresentations in "Viral Apartheid," a piece alleged to be about my talk at the National AIDS Update Conference. The "correction," however, only reasserted Mr. Botkin's right to "opinions or conjecture" in the guise of "commentary," and then simply repeated *all* of the original libel. Contrary to the correction, Botkin is *not* — in the form of commentary or other print — ethically or legally entitled to "opinions or conjecture" about ideas I "espouse or advocate." These are matters of *record and fact*. Nor, of course, is Mr. Botkin entitled to opinions or conjecture about my psychotherapy practice, psychotherapy patients, or personal life, all of which are also either matters of *fact* or appropriately beyond Mr. Botkin's scope of knowledge. Mr. Botkin attributed to me language, ideas, advocacy, and feelings that have *no factual basis whatsoever*.

What is most disturbing about Mr. Botkin's piece, however, is the distress it has wrought on some of my psychotherapy patients. Many have been unfairly injured by his "opinion and conjecture," including some among the approximately 50 percent who are, like Mr. Botkin, HIV-positive. It is to *all* these men that your sly and evasive correction should have been addressed with an authentic apology. May I suggest to both the *Bay Area Reporter* and Mr. Botkin that misrepresentation, venomous anger, hatred, and self-hatred not be visited upon our communities as if they were revelatory truth and a public service.

Finally, in an effort to correct Mr. Botkin's misrepresentations about my AIDS Update talk — a useful talk about primary prevention and new efforts to address continuing HIV infections among gay men — I would be happy to send a transcript of the talk to anyone interested. Please leave a name and address on my office phone at 510-845-4628.

Walt Odets, Ph.D.
Berkeley, CA

Bear Hugs All Around

On behalf of the clients, volunteers, staff and Board of Directors of AIDS Benefits Counselors, I would like to publicly congratulate the Bears of San Francisco on the success of their recent benefit event, Bear Rendezvous 1995.

This wonderful weekend of furry fun was a huge success because many club members gave so much of their time and energy. Merchants throughout the Bay Area contributed to help make the weekend profitable for the gay/lesbian and AIDS local and national organizations who were named as beneficiaries.

Your publisher, editor, staff writers, and photographers deserve a great big bear hug, too, for your pre- and post-event coverage of the weekend. Thank you for your continued support of our community!

Ken Emery
President, Board of Directors
AIDS Benefits Counselors

Filipinos Fighting AIDS

An Open Letter to the Filipino community of the San Francisco Bay Area, friends of the Filipino Task Force on AIDS, and friends & lovers of Filipino people:

Dear friends,

On behalf of the Filipino Task Force on AIDS (FTFA), its board of directors, staff, volunteers and clients, I would like to extend our deepest appreciation for your support of FTFA's work "to prevent the spread of the HIV virus in our community and the provision of services/care to those living with HIV and AIDS."

Through your generosity in participating in AT&T Association Rewards program, the donor designated United Way campaign, and your employers' donor designated campaign, FTFA has received over one thousand dollars of financial support.

FTFA would like to extend our special thanks to the unknown 114 individuals who made international calls through AT&T which generated over \$900 toward our work.

It warms my heart to know that there are people who care about the work FTFA does and support our continuing efforts. We hope to count on your generosity. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to give us a call at (415) 703-9880.

Again, Salamat (thank you.)

Pinoy para sa kapwa Pinoy. (Filipinos helping fellow Filipinos.)

Daniel E. Toleran, M.S.
Interim Executive Director
Filipino Task Force on AIDS

Ray Reporting

For the most part the letters you receive are complaining about this or that (including one that I faxed you in the past) but this is one of thanks and gratitude. The reporting related to the murder of my friend Tony Ray by your newspaper will help bring the case to a close soon, I believe. I must first apologize for my knee-jerk reaction to Dennis Conkin's first story; It is hard to read things that are less than flattering about someone that you care about, and because this could have been Tony's epitaph it made me angry.

The Tony Ray that I knew was a kind human being, who was an honest guy — and one who if you needed the shirt off his back he would have given it to you. He had just broken up with his lover, was in the throgs of depression and I am afraid fell back into using drugs.

Tony was like many young male gays in San Francisco, well meaning but astray as far as the dope thing goes. We tried to get Tony out of the city, and tried to help — but we were too late. The only thing besides wishing that Tony was here today is I wish that he told me who made him afraid. I want you to know that Tony continues to be missed by all those who knew him, his gay family and his blood family.

The continual reporting of this most important story has helped break the wall of silence that has surrounded this case, and the wall of silence has cracks in it. It is sad that the class of any victim would require community pressure to resolve a situation such as this. I thank you for your reporting about the "Unsolved Murder of Tony Ray."

It is my hope that the next story that you put to bed about this subject will be the arrest of the person responsible for the murder of Tony.

Gary A. Johnson
San Francisco

Helping Harry

In May of 1993, gay movement founder Harry Hay and his partner John Burnside were burned out of their rented house in Los Angeles. The fire destroyed not only a home where many of us have spent long, enjoyable hours, but also a viable economic arrangement that enabled the couple to live comfortably on their monthly social security income.

Thanks to the help of friends, several thousand dollars were raised in 1993 to help Harry and John relocate and meet emergency expenses. They are now settled in a comfortable, if somewhat cramped, one-bedroom cottage in West Hollywood. The problem is that the rent for even this modest home, along with other expenses, outstrips their monthly income. And given the present housing market in Los Angeles there's very little chance of finding a less expensive home. The shortfall is steadily eating up their savings and security. At the ages of 83 and 78, after having given a lifetime of service to the gay movement, Harry and John are now facing serious economic distress.

The answer is simple enough. A circle of friends pledging \$5, \$10 or \$20 monthly or quarterly can easily meet this shortfall. A post office box has been established to receive donations and these will be deposited to a savings account on Harry and John's behalf. To join us, send a donation payable to "Harry Hay and John Burnside" (or just "Harry Hay") or just a letter indicating your interest to: Friends of Harry and John, POB 15154, San Francisco, CA 94115. We'll send you a set of return envelopes for future gifts.

More than once, I've seen total strangers come up to Harry simply to say, "Thank you for my life!" And if you think about it, this is exactly what Harry has given us all by launching the gay movement in 1950—a community to come out to and the chance to actually live as lesbians and gay men. Compared to this, the gift we give Harry and John now may seem small, but it will be no less precious if it affords them the security they deserve. Please join us.

Will Roscoe
"Friends of Harry and John"

Supporting Negatives

I was sorry to read Michael Botkin's criticism of HIV-negative programs and support groups. Specifically, he slams the work of Walt Odets, Ph.D.

It's true that HIV-negative gay men don't have anything near the crisis of HIV-positives. However, HIV-negative gay men continue to seroconvert at an astonishing rate, and that is a crisis. Odets is right: we should re-think current HIV prevention strate-

Continued on page 8

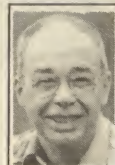
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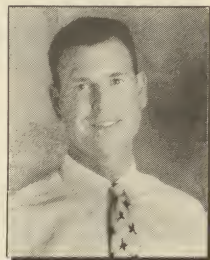
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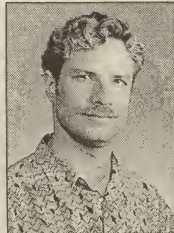
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LETTERS

Continued from page 7

gies. Nearly everything HIV-negatives see and read in the gay media is about managing HIV infection. Apparently, they don't feel a lot of hope about surviving the AIDS epidemic. Presuming infection is inevitable, they aren't so careful with safe sex, and they seroconvert. Unfortunately, it is part of their "identity" that they will get sick and die. The way I see it, if HIV-negative support groups help give people a sense of hope and reaffirmation for their survival, then they might think twice when an unsafe sex opportunity arises. A strong HIV-negative identity could keep them safe.

HIV-negatives need to get safe sex messages that are about staying uninfected and staying alive, and about (God forbid!) having a future. They need a gay male "identity" that is about living. Feeling hopeful about the future appears to trample on PWAs' emotions. I believe that the media, and various AIDS education campaigns, are not encouraging HIV-negatives' enthusiasm, for fear of offending HIVers. And the end result? More who seroconvert. In our media campaigns, there must be a way to be sensitive to the issues of all persons with HIV; to offer support to persons who are living with AIDS; and to remind HIV-negatives that they are part of a large group of gay men who can and will survive this epidemic. This third concept is currently missing, and I see this as the focus of Odets' work.

So many of us have lots of anger about AIDS. Unfortunately, Botkin misdirects his anger towards efforts to protect the uninfected. And in this case, he misses the point of AIDS prevention: preventing AIDS.

John Hoffman
San Francisco

The Crystal Epidemic

After attending the speed symposium held at the Women's Building on Thursday, March 9th, a few things have become apparent. One is the fact that it has taken too long for the community at large to start to discuss this issue. Another is the reality that we need to deal with this issue in an up front and nonjudgmental manner. The panel, which consisted of several HIV/AIDS care "professionals" and one person who was dealing with his own issues of crystal addiction, sometimes came across to some members of the audience as being condescending and sermonizing about the crystal meth epidemic.

While I applaud that people are gathering to talk about this unmentioned issue rather than sweeping it under the rug, more dialogue is needed and ideas must be presented to help create support systems for those using this drug. I realize that the panel has their hearts in the right place but more discussion needs to take place as to why so many people are hooked on speed.

The emotional trauma that our community has been dealing with over the past years is staggering. We are told that half of the gay men in San Francisco may be HIV positive. We know that being a queer person in San Francisco during the 1980s and 1990s is no piece of cake. The lack of support systems and role models, coupled with the infighting and the overall conservative backlash against our movement, has contributed to the feelings of hopelessness, fear and insecurity about our future and the future of our queer youth. The fact of the matter is that it has been over ten years and there is no cure for the AIDS virus...

People who use crystal meth are not "bad" people. They are seeking escape from a reality which is not a pretty one. The use of crystal is promoted by those in the club scene because it promotes feelings of euphoria and well-being during the first few times of use. Overuse of the drug, as with any drug, can cause immune suppression and negative physical and psychological effects. We must prepare for the news that HIV infection rates will increase in a few years due to the explosive increase in the use of crystal meth over the last three years.

The crystal epidemic may be one reason for the widespread apathy in our community. The specter of HIV/AIDS looms so large over our shoulders that we try to block it out for a night, a weekend, a week. We try so hard to forget that our lovers, friends, and acquaintances are sick and dying.

I believe that harm reduction might help those who have issues with the use of crystal methedrine. In the Netherlands, the policy of harm reduction helps to keep drug users away from harder drugs by suggesting less harmful substances that are not as addictive and destructive. By being open to new ideas we can avoid the failed "just say no" drug hysteria and help people make informed decisions about their drug use.

I would like to see another forum held soon on the use of crystal, but in a different format. Rather than having a panel of experts in discussion with an audience, let's have a circle where we all, both users and non-users, begin to talk about what is really happening inside our hearts. With love, compassion, nonjudgment, and open hearts, we can

deal with the realities of living and dying rather than running away from our responsibilities to our sisters' and brothers' well-being.

Timothy Buttercup
San Francisco

Don't Generalize About Survivors

The March 2 B.A.R. contained a letter from Bob Smith in response to a letter that appeared in the Feb. 2 edition from G. Louis Silva and Dean Evan McKown. I would also like the opportunity to respond.

I was somewhat irritated when I first read the letter from Messrs. Silva & McKown, basically stating that "All long-term survivors have turned to non-traditional medicine and fresh, real nutrition." I, myself, have been HIV-positive since at least 1978, and am part of the City's Cohort Study on long-term survivors. My T-cell count is in excess of 700; I have never taken any medication such as AZT for the virus, and as far as turning to fresh, real nutrition goes, I'm sure that Burger King owes a large part of its financial success to my patronage. I do believe that the reason that I have stayed healthy for so long (while over 35 of my friends from San Francisco have passed away) is due in part to my refusal to let this crummy virus rule my life.

As far as I know, I was never contacted by Messrs. Silva & McKown to find out if I have used non-traditional medicine, nor did they contact me about my eating habits. When I read their letter, I thought "what could it hurt?" Then when I read the follow-up letter from Bob Smith I felt compelled to write. I honestly don't think that Silva & McKown meant any harm by their statements, but I do feel that they were wrong in making a blanket statement about "all long-term survivors."

Michael P. O'Connor
Vermilion, Ohio

Good Sports

I'm curious about the recently announced Cable Car Award nominations. I congratulate all those nominated in Bowling, Softball, Pool and Tennis. Certainly all are deserving of the honor as "Outstanding." But what happened to all the other "Outstanding" athletes in San Francisco and throughout the Bay Area? I know nominations were submitted for athletes in other sports. The achievements by local athletes have brought recognition throughout the world to our gay and lesbian sports community, so why are only a few being honored? Cannot an effort be made to tell the rest of the athletes "thank you" for making the city so proud? Is that what the "token" award to Team San Francisco is supposed to represent?

Well, to all those in women's flag football, men and women's wrestling, basketball, swimming, diving, water polo, ice skating, soccer, cycling, marathon running, track & field, golf, martial arts, and all the other sports that failed to make the grade for the Cable Car Awards: Thanks! Regardless of whether the Cable Car panel of experts thinks you're worthy, you've made me proud to be recognized as a part of the Bay Area sports community! Keep up the "Outstanding" work!

Rick Thoman
San Francisco

All Stitched Together

This is in response to the March 9 letter entitled "Quilt Story." It pains me to think that even members of the gay and lesbian community can forget why a medium such as a quilt was used in the first place. It is a statement of the horrifying impact AIDS has had on all of us. My interpretation has always been one of a quilt being thousands of different and varied fabrics, fibers, and designs that when put together to form a whole, does just that - forms a whole.

The quilt was designed to do exactly what Mr. Carr is so against. The Names Project has managed to neither judge nor moralize the lives of the people it represents. There's no "White only" section, no "never started in a porno" section, no "non-Jews only" section, no "hope to God this one never wore leather" section. Need I go on? The quilt is a testimony to the fact that we are all possible PWAs. It is a testament to the fact that there are only two classes of people left today, those of us infected by HIV or those of us affected by HIV.

Please sir, allow your loved one the dignity to rest and be remembered as one of many. Like multi-colored flowers in one field, somehow everyone on the quilt stands out, stands alone and stands united.

Irwin Kane
SF Leather Daddy X

Wilson on the Verge

Though California Governor Pete Wilson promised voters several times during last year's campaign that he would not be a candidate for president in 1996 if re-elected, sources close to the governor are leaking the news that an "announcement that Wilson is in" may come "as early as May 1" - less than two months away.

Indeed, despite the repeated

Commentary

"official" word from the Wilson camp that "he hasn't decided yet," the decision, according to many of the checkbook Republicans who have helped finance past Wilson campaigns, has been made, and barring any dramatic last-minute problem, Pete Wilson will soon be off and running for the GOP nomination - and the dubious chance of unseating President Clinton next year.

Even the fact that an active candidacy would force Wilson to spend a lot of time out of state campaigning (thereby effectively leaving Democratic Lieutenant Governor Gray Davis running the state) apparently made little difference in the decision and was hardly a factor during the days that Wilson was quietly making up his mind.

Though President Clinton is the first sitting governor to win the presidency since Franklin Roosevelt did so back in 1932, Wilson's stock, despite some recent low polling numbers here in his home state, has dramatically risen in many parts of the country, making him a very formidable foe. Also, with two Washington "insiders," conservatives Bob Dole and Phil Gramm, about to lock horns as their candidacies get off the ground, Wilson could sneak in and steal the limelight from the veteran warhorses.

The governor's strategy apparently calls for him to limit his early campaigning to pivotal states like New Hampshire, where even a third-place finish behind Dole and Gramm would be considered a sign of early strength that could keep him competitive in a few other states until the March 26 California primary, the truly "big prize" in the presidential sweepstakes. A Wilson win, as expected, would make him a real contender at the GOP Convention to be held next August in his hometown of San Diego.

For whatever it's worth, the late Richard Nixon predicted that the 1996 GOP ticket would be Pete Wilson-Christine Todd Whitman (the popular governor of New Jersey), and whatever your feelings on Tricky Dicky, he did have a keen political sense that even his enemies admired.

I think you can take this one to the bank: Pete Wilson

becomes a very serious candidate for president before July 4.

Incidentally, when former East Bay Assemblywoman Delaine Eastin, the partisan Democrat elected last fall to the "non-partisan" office of state superintendent of public instruction, was asked recently what she thought about Pete Wilson running for president, she quickly replied that while she supports the re-election of President Clinton, "America could do a whole lot worse than Pete Wilson."

When Assembly Speaker Willie Brown announced last week that he is exploring a federal court challenge to the state's term limits law, he picked up a



Gov. Pete Wilson

lot of support. The term-limits initiative, passed by California voters in 1990, limits Assembly members to three two-year terms and state senators and other statewide officeholders to two four-year terms. It is indeed time this law was challenged, as it makes no more sense than the promise the Washington Republicans (read: Newt Gingrich) made in their Contract With America to limit the terms of U.S. representatives and senators.

Big surprise: since the GOP took control of Congress this year, they have suddenly put the idea of term limits on the back burner. Evidently, it's only suitable as a campaign issue.

The gay rights group Stonewall Cincinnati is organizing a "boycott" in that Ohio city to support businesses that back gay rights. The move is designed to counter last week's City Council vote to remove gays and lesbians from Cincinnati's human rights ordinance.

Celebs: Rocker Elton John will perform one of his three Oscar-nominated songs from *The Lion King* at next Monday's Academy Awards extravaganza, and then will host his annual AIDS fundraiser party. No one in Hollywood misses this bash!

Meanwhile, Olympic diver Greg Louganis has announced that a movie will be made based on his new best-seller autobiog-

raphy. Louganis says that although he wants to become a respected actor, he won't star in the movie though he "hopes to do some of the diving scenes."

Massachusetts recorded its 10,000th case of AIDS this week, and Governor Bill Weld, a Republican often referred to as America's most pro-gay governor, said efforts will be made to increase awareness of the disease and to "prevent the disease's spread and eliminate bigotry directed at people living with AIDS."

People who know her well are saying that Elizabeth Birch, the new executive director of The Human Rights Campaign Fund, is perfect for the job.

San Francisco friends of Anita Hill (and she has a number of them here) are telling me that the law professor who gained national attention during the confirmation hearings for Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas intends to resign her University of Oklahoma job and move to Laguna Beach, where she will write two books for Doubleday: her autobiography and a study of historical and contemporary sexual harassment.

Odd Couple: In Washington, Utah Senator Orrin Hatch, the conservative Republican who once called the Democrats "the party of homosexuals and abortion" (but quickly and loudly apologized), will receive an award this week from the NOW Legal Defense and Education Fund. While still a confirmed conservative, Hatch, now the chair of the powerful Judiciary Committee, is one of Senator Ted Kennedy's closest friends, and his friendship with Kennedy has made a difference in the positions of the once hateful Hatch. Indeed, Hatch let Bob Dole and other GOP senate leaders know last week that, in their pruning frenzy, they had better not touch programs for the poor, AIDS funding and ways to fight domestic violence. Though Hatch, a Mormon Church elder, still has problems with the gay lifestyle, he fights for hate-crime legislation to protect gays "because I just don't like any kind of injustice." As for the Christian right, he plainly states that "they should know that if they want us Republicans to be clones of the far right, I'm never going to be there."

When six gay military people went to the federal court last week to ask a judge to do what our national leaders will not do - declare that banning open gays and lesbians from the armed services is wrong - the respected *Los Angeles Times* editorialized that "the judge in this case, Eugene Nickerson, a district judge from Brooklyn, who must rule by March 31, has a historic opportunity to sweep away decades of costly, cruel and pointless discrimination against loyal Americans." And that, folks, is my Quote of the Week. ▼

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DYKEOTOMY

A Conference in the Diaspora: 'Black Nations/Queer Nations'

by Elissa Perry

Aaaah, summer rain! Yes, I know it's really just the first week of spring, but this weather feels like summer to me after spending a weekend in New York where it was about five degrees. Okay, it was only 20 degrees one night, but still it was cold! And despite the chilly weather, I would gladly do it all again.

I was there to attend "Black Nations/Queer Nations?: Lesbian and Gay Sexualities in the African Diaspora," a working conference sponsored by the Center for Lesbian and Gay Studies (CLAGS) and the Black Nations/Queer Nations? organizing committee. The conference, held at the Graduate Center of The City University of New York March 9-11, was designed to create discussion across the diversity of people of African descent and celebrate the lives of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people of the African Diaspora; organizers hope it will become an annual occasion.

The event opened with an evening of performance including Cheryl Clarke, Brian Freeman, Lavender Light, Harmonica Sunbeam, and Toshi Reagan (an event in and of herself), plus media works by Thomas Allen Harris, RuPaul, Dawn Suggs, and Yvonne Welbon.

Since I had only had three hours of sleep, the performers had a challenge on their hands in keeping me awake. They met and surpassed it. Harmonica Sunbeam was the surprise of the evening. Given the name, I (and the guy next to me) expected some ultra-PC vegetarian lesbian of the 1970s wimmin variety playing folk music. What we got was a drag queen with a blonde wig, a prairie dress, and huge falsies (eyelashes and tits) lip-synching the Dolly Parton version of "I Will Always Love You."

As if the spectacle of this tall black brother/sister with far too much grace and personality and melanin to be Dolly Parton pretending to be the none-other-than-Dolly wasn't funny enough, Harmonica then went into convulsions in which his wig, dress, and tits came off — and emerged from his fit as

Whitney Houston, sending the audience into hysterics.

Harmonica then did a parody of the African dancer brought to the U.S. from the "dark continent" to perform/be exploited by the ballet crowd. I laughed until I shook, cried, and gasped for air.

The next two days were packed with a plethora of plenary sessions and work sessions. The three plenaries included such speakers as Barbara Smith, Dr. Elias Farajate-Jones, Essex Hemphill, Samuel Delany, Jacqui Alexander, Isaac Julian, Coco

workshops from which to choose, exploring a broad variety of issues from the politics of "purity" to being consumed by pop culture; from erotica to being "queer and colored" in academia.

The first workshop I attended was titled "Black Nationalism, Homosexuality, and the Politics of Purity" — at which two of the three panel presenters were white men! Go figure.

By the time we finished listening dutifully to their presentations (and then went on to process the politics playing out within the panel itself) there was only time left to scratch the surface, but we did manage a good beginning in discussing the nationalisms of Garvey, the Black Panthers, and the Nation of Islam and their relation to sexuality. All are opposed to homosexuality in some way, although some more vehemently than others, and in this way shared a common hole in their nationalisms where women and queers should have been.

The conference also featured private screenings of two forthcoming films: *Black Is...Black Ain't* by Marlon Riggs, and *A Litany for Survival: The Life and Work of Audre Lorde*, by Ada Gay Griffin and Michelle Parkerson. As the films have not been officially released they cannot be officially reviewed, but I would suggest that when they are released you should be first in line for tickets.

The conference was documented on video by Cheryl Dunye and Shari Frilot and a host of volunteers. The videos and accompanying booklet will be ready in June of 1995, and were made possible by a grant from the Ford Foundation. ▼

■ If you would like more information about the Black Nations/Queer Nations? video project or the conference itself, contact the BNQN information line at (718) 852-9313.

For more information about CLAGS or future conferences and events, write: CLAGS, The Graduate Center, The City University of New York, 33 West 42nd Street, New York, NY 10036, or call (212) 642-2923.

Commentary

Fusco, and Kobena Mercer. Questions of race, class, gender, Black Nationalism, queer identity, and a global movement were discussed.

Dr. Farajate-Jones of Howard University pointed out that there is danger in dichotomizing in our own community just as binaries are, by their very nature, divisive and dangerous elsewhere in life. We cannot draw the line at academic vs. not — or as Dr. Farajate-Jones put it, "club kids vs. conference kids." If we follow the narrow lines of thought set up by such binaries, we only serve to limit ourselves and others, as well as our perception of ourselves and others.

Kwame Anthony Appiah from Harvard named other dangerous dichotomous "options" with which we have limited ourselves in the past. They are those of Black Nationalism vs. Uncle Tom; and the Gay Liberation Movement (white) vs. The Closet.

Just as things were getting uncomfortably academic and theoretical, Barbara Smith reminded the conference participants that "Homophobia, racism, sexism, classism ... are not theoretical concepts. A child really is hungry down the street right now."

"There really is a woman being raped and beaten right now."

"That person you passed on the street really did sleep outside last night."

Work, work, workshops
There were far too many

Big Basin State Park AIDS Grove Dedication Set April 1

The AIDS Memorial Redwood Grove at Big Basin State Park will be dedicated Saturday, April 1, at 11:30 a.m. "The memorial, three years in the planning, is soon to be a reality," said Ken Borelli, coordinator.

Initially the dedication was planned for January 21, but was rained out, Borelli said. A nature walk will follow the dedication. Streams and waterfalls are flowing at full capacity and promise a beautiful setting for the dedication. But just in case the weather proves uncooperative again, guests will gather in a nearby rustic lodge prior to visiting the grove. Hot drinks and refreshments will be served. For \$100 or more a special nameplate — in honor or memory of an individual — will be attached to the large AIDS Memorial Grove sign to be erected designating the grove as an AIDS memorial. Donations can be sent to Sempervirens Fund, Attention AIDS Memorial Grove, Drawer BE, Los Altos, CA, 94023. For more information contact Friends of The Grove, PO Box 3579, San Jose, CA, 95156 or call Ken Borelli at (408) 441-5460 or Jim Crosby (408) 441-5434.

—Kent Brandley

OUT FOR BUSINESS

Kamana Wana Lei U

by Kent Brandley

Aumakua is a Hawaiian word meaning "protective force or guardian spirit," and it's also the unusual name of a unique new store owned by Patrick Shortle, a gay man, who moved here from Maui last year with his partner Jim Whelan. Aumakua, located at 2238 Fillmore Street, between Sacramento and Clay in the city, specializes in high quality and unique arts, crafts, collectibles and accessories. Everything in the store is handmade. Both Patrick and Jim design and create the one-of-a-kind jewelry sold in the store. They also support other local craftspeople and assist them in developing a market for their work. Before leaving Maui both Shortle and Whelan were active in community affairs there. Whelan was a volunteer with the Maui AIDS Foundation, and Shortle was the first openly gay man to serve on the Maui County Public Works Commission. Shortle was also a founder of the Maui Gay and Lesbian Business Association and had a store on Front Street in the whaling town of Lahaina. Both men are now active in the Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) here, and Whelan is involved in Fillmore Street collection for the AIDS Emergency Fund penny jar program.

Aumakua is open daily from 10:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. and on Sundays from noon until 6 p.m. You can call Aumakua at (415) 673-4200.

You Like Trade? No doubt the revitalized and now eagerly capitalistic Russians have something to offer us besides Vodka and big sausages. If you've checked out the peach-blossomed youth among the Russian troops shown on television lately, you may be pleased to know the Russians are coming to San Francisco for Trade Expo '95 at the invitation of Mayor Frank M. Jordan. This is the third such trade exposition here and is organized by Global Trends, Eco-Trends of Moscow and the San Francisco Global Trade Council. More than 100 Russian and CIS businesses and agencies - including heavy-duty chain manufacturers - will have seminars, conferences, and exhibits at Moscone Center

(Concourse Pavilion) at Seventh and Brannan in the city, April 5 through 9. A gala reception and opening dinner is planned for April 7 from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. If the vodka flows from 7 to 11 it shouldn't be too hard to find a willing Russian to tote home or make a deal with.

About 70 percent of Tim P. Cooper's clientele at Financial Network Investment Corp. is lesbian and gay. Tim is a certified financial planner who is working overtime at this time of year with income tax returns due the middle of next month. Cooper has been in business here for six years and specializes in retirement plans and investments. He has some definite pointers on how to reduce your tax bite with a '94 IRA. "With the April 17 deadline rapidly approaching, most people will be establishing and putting money into IRAs and SEP-IRAs," Cooper told the B.A.R. What's the difference between an IRA and a SEP-IRA? "The IRA is for individuals, and the maximum annual contribution is \$2,000. SEP-IRAs are for small businesses or for individuals who have self-employment income," Cooper says. "The dynamic characteristic of a SEP-IRA is that they permit greater contributions: for sole proprietors and partners, the lesser of 13 percent of adjusted Schedule C, F and K-1 earnings or \$30,000," he says. Call Tim at (415) 391-6644 to get an IRA contribution and deduction schedule.

Mi casa su casa - which translates to my house your house - is now the only home exchange service in the world designed for gay and lesbian travelers, says David Marcus, honcho. "In January, Club Ex Network, based in London, decided to fold. Mi casa su casa agreed to honor active Club Ex memberships at no charge. The new combined club consisting of mi casa su casa's membership base and that of Club Ex, will equal over 400 members in 25 countries." For more information about mi casa su casa, call 1-800-215-CASA.

Don't Panic! Designs, which opened a San Francisco store about

a year ago at 541 Castro, has gone down under. Not in an economic sense - the firm is hugely successful, with sales topping \$3 million last year - but in a geographic sense, they have opened a new store in Sydney, Australia. The opening coincided with the final days of the world's largest queer celebration, Gay Mardi Gras in Sydney. Los Angeles-based Don't Panic - launched four years ago in a West Hollywood bedroom - now operates seven "gay department stores" worldwide. Sydney joins Don't Panic London as the company's international outlets.

OUT & ABOUT, a New York-based magazine containing essential information for gay and lesbian travelers, announces that its all-San Francisco issue is on the horizon, and they say as of April 1 British Airways will allow its gay and lesbian employees to nominate their partners for staff travel, extending benefits previously available only to opposite-sex spouses. ▼

■ Got business news of real interest to the gay and lesbian community? Let us blow your horn for you. "He that tooteth not his own horn, it shall not be tooted." Give Out for Biz a call at (415) 816-5019 Ext. 110 or drop a line, the briefer the better.

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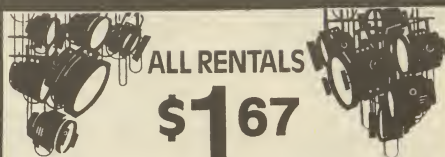
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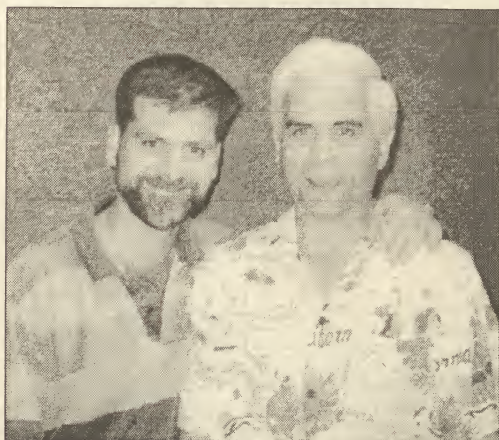
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Aumakua's Jim Whelan (left) and Patrick Shortle.



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COMMUNITY

Closet Ball at Bimbos Seeks Contestants

San Francisco's most outrageous coming out party — Closet Ball, 1995 — is seeking contestants. The annual event is set for Saturday, May 6 at 8 p.m. at Bimbos 365 Club in the city.

Men vying for the title of Closet Ball Queen must submit a contestant application by April 1. Cash prizes will be awarded to the winner, first runner up and second place finisher. Contestants will be judged on male impact, female impact and quality of transformation.

Organizers say that "besides handsome and beautiful contestants, the show will feature San Francisco singing star Gail Wilson, the Bay Area Raw Rah cheerleading/dance team and the San Francisco Lesbian and Gay Marching Band."

For contestant applications or for spectator tickets call David Webb at (415) 864-0673.

—Kent Brandley

GLAAD

Jenny Jones, Journalism & Jabberwocky

by Al Kiehlwasser

"Jabberwocky," says Lewis Carroll, is "meaningless writing." The term is an apt description for much of the so-called reporting on the recent murder of a gay man who appeared on the *Jenny Jones* talk show. As part of a "Secret Admirers" segment, Scott Amedure — a gay guest — revealed his attraction for another guest (John Schmitz, reported to be heterosexual); three days later, Amedure was shot and killed by the "embarrassed" Schmitz.

Although the murder was widely reported, virtually none of the mainstream media mentioned the word "homophobia." Remarkably, the hate motivation behind the crime — known to all lesbians and gay men — went unreported. The press focused instead on the issue of whether or not TV talk shows have become "too trashy."

The major television networks, NBC, CBS, and ABC, emphasized this "sleaze" factor. They failed to account for the homophobia — so endemic to our society — that should have been this story's lead. In fact, by focusing on whether or not he had been deceived or "abused" by *Jenny Jones* producers, the networks managed to portray the murderer as the victim!

The print media did an even worse job of covering the story. The Associated Press report (March 11), written by Frazier Moore, also side-stepped homophobia. The central issue was the morality of the talk show's producers. The AP article was written as if — contrary to all logic — the murder resulted from the mere fact of the possible "deception." The likelihood of the crime, the reporter suggested, would have been the same whether Amedure had been a gay man or a straight woman.

The *New York Times* first reported the story in a small article on March 12, which managed to never mention the words "gay" or "homophobia." On March 14, the *Times* ran a front page article that made a brief reference to the murder itself, and then went on to question of the integrity of talk shows in general.

The Reuters news syndicate lead their story with this sentence: "Prosecutors alleged Friday that a nationally syndicated talk show is partly to blame for a murder — committed by a male guest angered after being introduced on-camera to a secret admirer who turned out to be another man." The Reuters article then describes how the murderer — Schmitz — "kept his composure" during the taping but was ultimately "shocked" and "unable to control his anger." Quoted extensively is Michigan prosecutor Richard Thompson, who not only "partly" — but *fully* — blames the murder "on the *Jenny Jones* show[...], which ambushed this defendant with humiliation." Nowhere in this article is any mention made of "homophobia," and *not one* expert on lesbian/gay hate violence is quoted. In fact, not one openly lesbian or gay person is quoted!

In every case, journalists missed the story. The story here, of course, isn't *Jenny Jones* or talk show "morality."

The story is hate. The story is homophobia. The story is, as Marlon Riggs once wrote, "the queer blood that runs loose and wild along the curbside" of streets in every city and town in this country.

According to the U.S. Department of Justice, lesbians and gays men are probably the most frequent victims of hate violence in this country. The National Gay & Lesbian Task Force reports that, in 1994, at least 59 lesbian and gay individuals lost their lives in bias-motivated murders. It is unconscionable for the mainstream media to brush these and similar facts aside, and ignore the issue of homophobia in reporting on hate crimes committed against our community.

Contact your local network affiliates, and ask these television stations to cover the *real story* — now, and in the future. Also, write to the Associated Press, 50 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, NY 10020, tel. 212-621-1500; Joseph Lelyveld, Executive Editor, *The New York Times*, 229 West 43rd Street, New York, NY 10036; Reuters America, 1700 Broadway, New York, NY 10019, tel. 213-603-3401.

Don't Tell Me You Had a Penis!

The March 13 episode of *Chicago Hope*, a CBS medical drama series, featured a singular storyline about transphobia and transgender identity. The plot revolved around the relationship between "Billy" and "Annie," two romantically-involved characters.

In an opening scene, Billy is injured during a hockey game and — accompanied by girlfriend Annie — he goes to the hospital for reconstructive surgery. The surgeon, Jeri Enfante, somehow knows Annie and this past relationship leads Billy down a path of speculation.

First, Billy assumes that Annie might have had breast implants (and just "hopes they were saline"). But, as it turns out, Dr. Enfante actually had performed Annie's sex reassignment surgery three years earlier, freeing her from what is later described as "gender dysphoria disorder."

As might be expected, the plot turns on Annie's decision to "tell my boyfriend I used to be a man." Falling deeper in love with Billy, she decides to tell him. Billy comes unglued at the news, ranting that he could have handled it if Annie had told him she had "been married, or had a criminal record ... but to tell me that you used to have a penis!"

The well-intentioned dialogue attempts to make an important point. Straight boy Billy (who is also a medical doctor!) can perfectly accept that his girlfriend might have had dangerous implant surgery solely to increase her breast size — but he reverts to raving lunacy when Annie tells him that she had surgery in order to live completely as the gender she knows is truly hers.

A medical colleague eventually attempts to convince Billy that "love is love." To Billy, however, Annie has now become a "thing" and a "mutant." This scene ends with Dr. Enfante telling Billy that, while she first felt bad for Annie, she now feels sorry for him. Thus, the script manages to bypass the usual contrivance of illicit "pity" for transgendered persons, and instead focuses the disdain where it belongs — on the transphobic.

The plot ends on an emotionally-powerful, if discouraging, note. Although both Annie and Billy tell each other that they want to "try to make it work," Billy recoils from Annie's kiss. "I wish you hadn't told me," he says, and the couple parts.

This storyline broaches a subject that many prime-time TV viewers still "wish you hadn't told me." As such, it begins to break the enormous silence and ignorance that surrounds transgender issues.

Send feedback to David E. Kelley, Michael Dinner and John Tinker, Co-Executive Producers, and James C. Hart, Producer, *Chicago Hope*, David E. Kelley Productions, P.O. Box 900, Beverly Hills, CA 90213, tel. 310-369-2132; copy your correspondence to Peter Tortorici, President, CBS Entertainment, 7800 Beverly Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90036, tel. 213-852-2345.

We must confront the media's homophobia in order to cure it! To notify GLAAD/SFBA of any defamatory or affirmative media coverage call our 24-hour media watch hotline at 415-861-4588, or write to "Media Watch," Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation/San Francisco Bay Area chapter, 1360 Mission Street, Suite 200, San Francisco, CA 94103; tel. 415-861-2244, fax 415-861-4893, e-mail glaad sfba@aol.com.

Founded in 1988, the San Francisco Bay Area chapter of GLAAD is a membership-based community organization dedicated to cultural advocacy and media activism. GLAAD/SFBA promotes the fair, accurate and diverse representation of lesbian, gay and bisexual lives in all forms of mass media.

Trinity Broadcasting Co. Dumps East Bay Gay Pastor

Minister Asked To Sign Affidavit That He Is No Longer Gay!

by Kent Brandley

Dr. Tom Polcari, an openly gay Pentecostal preacher in the East Bay, has been dropped as a national telephone counselor by the Trinity Broadcasting Network, where he has volunteered as a "prayer partner" since 1980.

Polcari, whose ministry on the UC Berkeley campus and at various clubs in the city includes many gay and lesbian people, said he believes his own sexuality is the reason he was denied access to the Trinity studio and its bank of incoming telephone lines, where he was to help answer viewers' calls.

He said he hadn't been given any warning that his status had been changed, and first became aware of it the night he was locked out and his security badge was pulled.

The issue of his sexual orientation first came up last fall, he said; rather than lie to Trinity, he told the *Bay Area Reporter*, he "leveled with them." Unfortunately, he said, the network officials were not equally as honest with him.

At first, they indicated Polcari had been denied access because he "lived outside the area," but phone calls come in from all over the nation and Trinity Broadcasting Network can be seen on various cable stations throughout the Bay Area. Officials at the Tustin, California broadcasting headquarters also lied, he said, when they later told him, "We have a surplus of counseling staff." Polcari said he was well aware that they were frequently short of "prayer partners" to accept incoming calls. On some busy Fridays between 9 and 10 p.m., he told the *B.A.R.*, he has been the only person answering 50 phone lines.

Mrs. Brown, you've got an ugly turn of phrase

Polcari also told the *Bay Area Reporter* that TBN Personnel Director Ruth Brown asked if he would sign affidavits saying he was no longer gay and that he would remain celibate for the rest of his life. He declined.

"We love the gay and lesbian people - however, you can't be part of our group," he recalls Brown telling him. "You just have to change your lifestyle and become different if you want to be part of this group."

Brown also reportedly told Polcari the word "gay" is a mis-

nomer. She called it the "sad community" because she believes it is filled with "loneliness, sadness, and emptiness." Polcari said he responded that it is no different from the heterosexual community, which has its share of all three.

He has also written a letter to Paul Crouch, president and founder of Trinity Broadcasting Network, telling him he had been terminated without notice and without due process. He is awaiting the response.

In the meanwhile, Polcari told the *B.A.R.*, he intends to continue his radio ministry, which is separate from Trinity Broadcasting. He broadcasts on KEST at 1450 AM radio in the Bay Area each Saturday from midnight. ▼

New Stop AIDS Project Targets African-American, Latino Men

by Kent Brandley

A new poster campaign by the Stop AIDS Project drawing attention at local bus shelters is targeting African-American and Latino men.

AIDS has proven to be particularly devastating to the Latino community and men of color in general, said Reggie Gage, African-American program coordinator and campaign coordinator for the new poster campaign effort.

Gage was joined in his concern by Alberto Mendoza, newly-hired Latino program coordinator, who emphasized that the Stop AIDS Project offers information and services that can save lives. "This campaign will help us fur-

ther encourage and motivate gay and bisexual Latino men in the city to stay safe," he said.

"Since these communities have high rates of risk behavior and new HIV infections, the need for targeted and effective prevention remains imperative," said Fred Sonenberg, executive director of the Stop AIDS Project.

Now in its tenth year, the project is a community organizing project for self-identified gay and bisexual men in San Francisco, seeking to reduce HIV transmission and lessen adverse effects of the HIV epidemic on the community. ▼

■ For more information call Reggie Gage at (415) 621-7122 Ext. 232.

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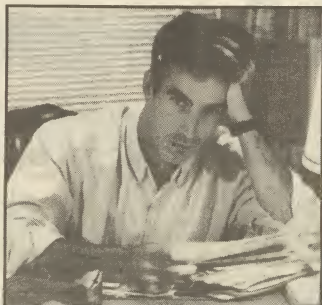
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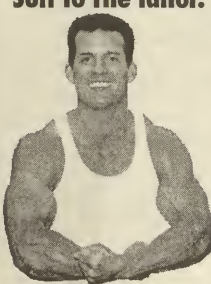


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COMMUNITY NEWS



Photo: Rick Gerharter

Think tank: three of the creative minds from Ad2 working on the AEF campaign: Joseph Newfield (left), Alan Patten and Gary Neuman (seated).

AIDS Emergency Fund To Benefit From Ad2 Pro Bono Ad Campaign

by Kent Brandley

An advertising campaign benefiting the AIDS Emergency Fund (AEF) will start running in the Bay Area next May, at a cost to the organization of virtually nothing.

The extensive campaign will include television spots and gigantic posters in BART stations, and will be aimed at East Bay cities where the incidence of AIDS is highest.

The very minimal cost is important because the AEF is a volunteer agency that prides itself on giving about 90 percent of funds raised back to clients with AIDS and disabling HIV.

Gary Neuman, the account director who coordinated the campaign for Ad2, a nationwide network of young volunteer advertising executives with chapters in some of the nation's major cities, told the *Bay Area Reporter* all six of the volunteer advertising and marketing professionals who created the massive advertising campaign are heterosexual men between the ages of 24-31.

Locally, Ad2 is a subsidiary group composed of younger members of the Advertising Club in San Francisco, who donated their time as producers, editors, and contributors of talent. Older members of the Advertising Club donated services as well, Neuman said.

The ad campaign will run for about six months and will offer a different approach to the subject of AIDS, using a concept based on desperate situations not of the subject's choosing, Neuman told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

For example, the commercial for television will use old movie footage of a man caught between two walls that are closing in on him, and his attempts to hold them back

from crushing him, Neuman explained. Posters placed at transit shelters, BART stations, and elsewhere will use the same images.

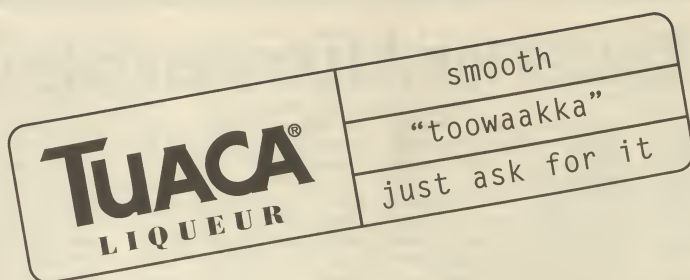
Dan Vojir of AEF told the *B.A.R.* that the fund only learned last August that Ad2 designed a virtually free advertising campaign for one non-profit organization each year — one day before the application deadline. He set to work with what he calls a "nothing ventured" attitude and quickly submitted a three-page application, including a statement of purpose and answers to all Ad2's questions.

About six weeks later he learned that AEF was one of three finalists, and when the fund learned it had been given the grant, the hard work really began, Vojir told the *B.A.R.*

"We discussed goals ad infinitum, and it was decided that since the greatest increase in new AIDS and HIV cases was in the East Bay, primarily Oakland/Alameda, that 50 percent of the campaign would target that group."

Last December, Neuman presented AEF committee board members with six black and white photo placards, and Vojir said "the committee chose the right thrust from the creatives presented." Ad2 then went to work pulling together the personnel — up to 100 outside artists, producers, and other volunteers — for the various tasks. Neuman specifically praised the efforts of copywriters Joe Newfield and Don Morales, and of art director Alan Patton.

In 1993 Ad2 San Francisco won a national award for creating interior buscards, bus shelter posters, a new logo and stationery, and 20 radio spots for Kairos Support for Caregivers, Vojir said. He estimated the value of the AEF campaign at around \$200,000. ▼



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Alameda County Braces for AIDS Funding Cuts

by Mary Ann Swissler

In 1992, President-elect Bill Clinton used the song "Don't Stop Thinking About Tomorrow" to cheer on a hopeful American public. But today it would only serve as an ominous reminder that Republican sponsored spending cuts have just begun.

Even with the restoration amendment passed on March 2 rescuing \$35 million in cuts for Ryan White and HIV prevention programs, the situation is bleak on the gay and AIDS fronts.

If other proposed cuts (like HOPWA — Housing Opportunities for People With AIDS) are not halted, either by President Clinton or various bipartisan coalitions, the circumstances would be particularly devastating to AIDS activists in the 'burbs of Alameda and Contra Costa counties.

Although the East Bay's HIV infection rates are rapidly increasing, its programs remain years behind San Francisco's, because it lacks the super-machinery to raise the kind of money required. With a \$1.5

million annual budget, for example, AIDS Project of the East Bay would be considered a medium-sized agency in San Francisco; on this side of the bay it is the largest. Less than two dozen beds for indigent AIDS patients exist in the entire county; none are in Berkeley; and the community support needed to respond to crises as they develop — especially housing — doesn't exist here for the approximately 1,481 people living with AIDS.

Although County Housing Director Linda Gardner said HOPWA was saved as a distinct program for at least a couple more years and would then be folded into a block grant program, she also said \$1.1 million in HOPWA funds are at risk for 1995 and beyond. If all HOPWA funds are scratched, there will be a lot of PWAs on the streets in Alameda County as a direct result.

Nationally, homeless people with AIDS have an estimated life expectancy of six months. A glimmer of good news came on Monday, March 20 when HUD announced that local agencies can now bid on a housing voucher contract for

approximately 5,000 homeless PWAs. But other housing projects, involving money already appropriated for fiscal year 1995, are not as safe. Another consideration under discussion at HUD is to limit participation in any future housing voucher program to two years, said Katharine Gale, Housing and Community Development Specialist with the county.

"If the rescission is successful, this means a huge depletion of resources to house people with AIDS," Gale said. "There's a large population, somewhere between 15 to 25 percent, of the homeless who are HIV-positive," she told the B.A.R. "We can't wait a couple of years to house those people. We need resources to house those people now."

Very different caseload from S.F.'s

Valerie Papaya-Mann, director of AIDS Project of the East Bay, told the *Bay Area Reporter* the differences between the East Bay and San Francisco HIV and AIDS clients are vast. The East Bay has a greater percentage of HIV-positive women and youths, more new cases, a broader geographic area, and bigger cultural and sexuality barriers. Of APEB's 800 clients, she said, 80 percent already live below the poverty line, 80 percent are people of color, 40 percent are homeless, 25 percent are women — many of whom have dependent children — and 45 percent have substance abuse issues.

Gay white men were noticeably absent from the survey, taken in 1993, of HIV and AIDS patients; they were, in fact, the least common of nine categories. (Countywide, 48 percent of adults living with HIV or AIDS are gay and bisexual white males, but African-American men and women are experiencing the largest increase rate, according to epidemiology figures available up to December 1994.) Now the Gay White Male Caucus, a very recent effort to address the specific concerns of that group, will quite possibly fall due to cutbacks.

Likewise, the board of supervisors only recently funded a contract employee to oper-

ate the Women's Early Intervention Center inside the County Office of AIDS Administration. Director Dori Sproul is conducting focus groups this month for future medical and psychosocial services, and said that she will become a permanent employee soon. That will depend, of course, on funding.

No formal contingency plans have been formulated by the county, according to Alameda County Supervisor Wilma Chan, but they are preparing reports on the impact of the cuts on the county. And Chan sounded like many elected officials and AIDS activists who are hoping that an ounce of humanity remains after Republicans extract their pound of flesh from those least able to afford it. "It remains to be seen," she said warily, "because these discussions in Washington and Sacramento are very preliminary."

Office of AIDS Administration Director Eugene Richards said, "It's hard to talk about that because I haven't a clue — and I don't think anyone else does either — if they do cut, where it'll be. There are a million different ways they can do that."

Jeff Meredith, who was instrumental in putting together AIDS housing in Alameda County in his former capacity at Catholic Charities of the East Bay, now says he despairs of future cuts.

"I literally don't want to open up the newspaper," he told the B.A.R. "I'm afraid what else these fools are trying to do. It's unconscionable that they would pull the whole funding for HOPWA."

Papaya-Mann said that Clinton ought to stick to his ideals against a Republican Congress that is out for blood. "I blame the government structure that is beginning to buy into decreasing funding for much-needed services," she said. "This is a life and death situation and we don't have time to experiment on it."

"In the past years we have seen a decrease in diagnoses because people are finally getting the [safer sex education] message. Being a former educator, I'm aware that education takes place through repetition

of a message. So for ten years we have put money into AIDS education and prevention, and if we stop funding those programs, it will result in an epidemic that we may not be able to control in the 21st century."

Meredith manages to sound guardedly optimistic. "If a Republican president would turn back massive cuts like Reagan did back in the early 80s, we can only hope that a Democrat would do that."

Gays vs. AIDS Office: increasing friction

If a climate is created where the mere survival of AIDS programs will be a sign of victory, the motivation to solve the increasingly ugly battles between the largely gay PWA community and Office of AIDS administration will decrease even more.

Despite a continuing dialogue between office director Eugene Richards and PWAs, the groups continue to grow further apart. In fact, a petition was recently sent to Alameda County Supervisor Gail Steele, County Health Services Agency Director David J. Kears, and County Public Health Department Director Arnold Perkins demanding explanations for: using county funds, which PWAs say were earmarked for health programs; for Ryan White administrative costs; for non-adherence to the needs assessment in 1995 spending, which Richards told the B.A.R. did not take place; and questions by the PWA community over the use of an AIDS hospice that has a higher cost than others in Oakland and which they allege turns patients out into the streets once full-blown AIDS sets in.

Richards said criticisms about the hospice were based on inaccurate figures released by a program specialist in his office.

The debate over high overhead will probably not be lessened after the opening of new offices for the Office of AIDS Administration last month. The luxurious headquarters resemble those of a private HMO corporation, rather than a county AIDS office living under the threat of massive budget cuts. ▼

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Nevirapine

Two groups of volunteers with 200-500 CD4: those who have taken AZT for 4-24 months, who receive either AZT plus NVP or AZT plus placebo, and those who have not taken antirvirals, who receive NVP or placebo. The study offers cross-over to active drug for all participants. Boehringer Ingelheim.

For further information, please call the Client Care Coordinator at (415) 353-6215. HIVCare is a program of the Clinical Research Department at Saint Francis Memorial Hospital, 900 Hyde St., SF 94109.

CALIFORNIA NEWS

Bias Suits

Continued from page 1

another worker that Transworld sought a pretext in order to fire Liebert because the firm didn't want to employ homosexuals.

Wrongful termination in violation of public policy is a separate cause of action and remains unaffected by any legal questions about whether or not Liebert exhausted his administrative remedies with the Labor Commission before he filed suit, the Appeal Court ruled.

A lower court had dismissed Liebert's suit, finding that he did not first file an administrative complaint with the state Labor Commissioner.

Although statutes banning anti-gay job discrimination were added to the California Labor code in 1993 after the passage of AB 2601, courts have also held that anti-gay job bias was a violation of public policy and that is itself grounds for a suit.

The Appeal Court was also asked to rule on

whether a gay or lesbian employee must file a claim with the state Labor Commissioner within 30 days of the act of discrimination in order to file a lawsuit under the Labor Code, said Liebert's attorney Paul Wotman.

"They did not decide that issue. I hope they do so soon," Wotman told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "I want to make it clear that I don't believe the law requires an administrative complaint to be filed with the Labor Commission before a suit is filed. I believe this decision says you don't have to, that you can still find other action."

Wotman told the *Bay Area Reporter* that shortly after the Appeal Court decision, other former employees for the firm have come forward with anti-gay discrimination charges.

The Appeal Court ruling said that any kind of employment discrimination based on sex, race, religion or sexual orientation was "invidious and violates a fundamental public policy of this state."

Wotman said he expected the suit to go to trial in six months. ▼

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

International Day to End Queer Violence

On March 25, Latino lesbian and gay activists will hold an event at 1 p.m. at 16th and Mission Street that will commemorate a 1993 protest that was disrupted by anti-gay violence.

The 1993 protest about the persecution of Central and South American sexual minorities was disrupted by several youths who threw beer bottles at the small crowd and yelled homophobic slurs.

Gente Latina De Ambiente, "GELAAM," a Latino/a gay/lesbian/bisexual and transsexual group, is the sponsor of the afternoon of consciousness-raising, food, murals and information at the site. For more information about the event, call 243-9534.

SF School District Seeks Queer Input

A meeting on Sunday, March 26 at 2 p.m. at Everett Middle School, located at 450 Church Street in the city, will help the San Francisco Unified School District learn about the concerns of the lesbian and gay community. Beyond the usual concerns over school materials, buildings and personnel there is added concern over curriculum, extracurricular activities and services/programs, said Tom Brutting, Ad Hoc Community Budget Advisory Committee member for the school district. This is one of a series of public meetings, Brutting said. A written survey will be taken to record opinions. A short video on homophobia in the schools, produced by a local parents group, will also be shown.

GGBA Turns 21, Honors Hormel

The Golden Gate Business Association celebrated its 21st anniversary

with a Board of Directors Installation and Awards Dinner on Tuesday, March 21, in the Imperial Ballroom of the Miyako Hotel located at 1625 Post Street in the city. A President's Reception hosted by Michael Craig Patterson, GGBA president, was followed by dinner at 6:30 p.m.

G. Lee FitzGerald, president and chief operating officer for Holiday RV SuperStores West, Inc., was keynote speaker and Hank Plante, anchor/reporter for KPIX television, was MC. P-FLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) was the recipient of the Community Service Award. Ron Lindenau of RTLC Systems Consulting was honored with the Mike Newton Memorial Member Service Award. James C. Hormel received the Board of Directors' Recognition Award.

Safer Sexual Healing Event

Positive Force: HIV and Gay Sacred Sex, an afternoon of sacred sexuality for HIV positive gay men and their intimate friends, is scheduled for Saturday, March 25 from 12:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. at 848 Divisadero (at McAllister) in the city. Cost is \$5 to \$50 depending on ability to pay, according to organizers Keith Hennessy and Bob Currier. Hennessy, co-director at 848 Divisadero, has been teaching sex-related workshops and rituals since 1990. Currier has been living with HIV for more than five years.

For more information call Currier at (415) 431-9281 or Hennessy at (415) 885-2003.

Grand Jurors Sought

The San Francisco Civil Grand Jury is seeking to diversify its membership and seeks names of eligible lesbian, gay and minority community members to serve on

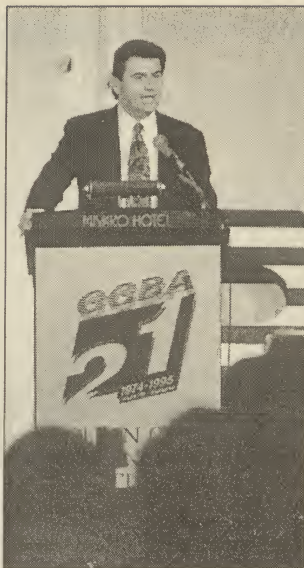


Photo: Rick Gerhartner

Getting down to business: A sellout banquet greeted keynote speaker G. Lee FitzGerald at the annual GGBA awards dinner March 21.

the 1995-1996 panel.

Nineteen members of the public are chosen from a pool of 30 prospective jurors each year.

Candidates must be willing to give at least 500 hours minimum of service to the jury, which investigates the operations of municipal government and issues a yearly report of its findings.

The Civil Grand Jury meets on Monday evenings at 633 Folsom Street,

and committee meetings are scheduled as needed. Jurors receive a per diem fee of \$11 for each weekly meeting of the Grand Jury and for each weekly committee meeting.

Members must disclose all investments and business positions in business entities and must also reveal income from any sources which have done business within the City and County of San Francisco in two previous years.

Members must also disclose income from city employees as interest in real property.

Applicants for Grand Jury service must be 18, have a working knowledge of the English language and no felony convictions.

Applications are available at the Jury Office at 633 Folsom Street, Room 100 Monday through Friday 8 a.m.- 5 p.m. The deadline is April 28th, 1995.

GLOBE Elects New Officers; Backs ACT-UP

Gays and Lesbians Organized for Betterment and Equality (GLOBE) in Hayward has elected new officers for 1995 and sent out letters supporting ACT-UP's picket line against Alameda County District Attorney Tom Orloff's prosecution of needle exchange volunteers. GLOBE also sent a letter of thanks to State Senator Bill Lockyer for his comments that he would not allow cuts in the state AIDS budget.

Kevin Dowling was elected as GLOBE's president; Charlene Shores, vice president; Mary Lavelle, treasurer; David Kragl, secretary; and Debbie Hoffner, finance chair. Members approved goals for GLOBE in 1995 including active involvement in Hayward and Castro Valley School Board races in November and continuing support for lesbian/gay youth groups in local schools. ▼

—Kent Brandley



Photo by Michael Fleming

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Being a known donor gives Gay Men, who do not want to raise children, an opportunity to have children in their lives, connects them to Lesbian families, and helps build community. Many Lesbians want donors to play "uncle" to their children. The demand for known donors is much greater than the supply. Rainbow Flag Health Services is recruiting donors of all ethnic backgrounds. If you are healthy, under 55 years old and are interested in being a known donor call for an appointment **(510)763-7737**

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COMMUNITY NEWS

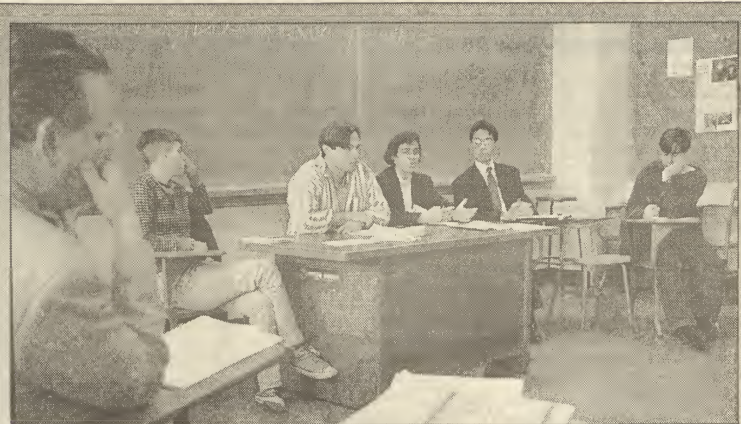


Photo: Rick Gerharter

Out and Active

As part of City College SF's daylong professional development day, four panelists presented their ideas and personal stories March 17 at a workshop entitled "Gay and Lesbian Leadership Challenges." From left to right, Lesbian Avenger Jennifer Morin, CCSF's Jonathan Katz and CCSF trustees Leslie Katz and Lawrence Wong told of their experiences of being out and politically active in a straight society.

State Health Dept. Expands AIDS Drug Assistance Program

by Frank Winter

California's AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP), which provides life-saving drugs to people living with HIV, has been expanded to include 18 additional drugs, Kim Belshé, state Health Director, announced in a statement dated March 15.

"This program provides a critical link in health care for thousands of Californians living with HIV and AIDS," Belshé said. "Access to therapies not only enables HIV-infected persons to stay healthier longer but also cuts down on the cost of HIV care to the public health system."

The new drugs are: stavudine, trimethoprim, megestrol acetate, bleomycin, cyclophosphamide, dexamethasone, doxorubicin, methotrexate, prednisone, vinblastine, vincristine, itraconazole, filgrastim, epoetin alfa, alpha interferon, dronabinol, trimetrexate glucuronate and leucovorin.

Stavudine (d4T/Zerit), which is the newest anti-HIV drug to receive FDA approval, is the fourth antiretroviral treatment to be made available through the state AIDS drug assistance program., said Lynda Frost, spokeswoman with the California Department of Health Services in Sacramento. Stavudine has been approved for

treatment of people with HIV infection who no longer benefit from other approved antiretroviral therapies, Frost said. Stavudine is a nucleoside analog that blocks viral replication. Other antiretrovirals available through ADAP include: didanosine (ddI), zidovudine (AZT), and zalcitabine (ddC).

For the first time, drugs for the treatment of AIDS-related cancers will be available through ADAP. These therapies include: bleomycin (Blenoxane), cyclophosphamide (Cytoxan), dexamethasone (Decadron, Hexadrol), doxorubicin (Adriamycin), mehtotrexate (Reumatrex), prednisone, vinblastine (Velban) and vincristine (Oncovin).

Established in 1987, the ADAP initially offered two medications: AZT and aerosolized pentamidine.

The ADAP is available to people whose private insurance does not cover drugs or who do not qualify for Medi-Cal. The program is available free to clients meeting eligibility requirements. Co-payments are required of those whose income exceeds 400 percent of the federal poverty level. The ADAP is a program of last resort for those with no other means to access AIDS drugs. ▼

Local Hospice Co-Hosts National Grief Teleconference

How children cope with death, and how the loss of a child impacts families, will be the topic of a televised conference at Contra Costa College on Thursday, March 30. ABC News correspondent Cokie Roberts will moderate via satellite from Washington, D.C.

The Visiting Nurse Association and Hospice of Northern California will co-sponsor the second annual event,

which last year drew over 40,000 participants from 900 communities throughout North America.

"This teleconference will allow both healthcare professionals and local residents to discuss the difficult questions from and about children and death and dying," said Howard Lunche, Bereavement Coordinator for VNA & Hospice. Following the nationwide teleconference, Lunche

and Cherry Wise, Director of Oakland-based PediatriCare, will moderate a discussion about grief issues and community resources available. ▼

— Mary Ann Swissler

■ The teleconference will run from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., and the discussion is from 1 to 2 p.m. To pre-register, call (510) 450-8596.

Researchers Believe Mother's Milk Blocks HIV

by Lidia Wasowicz UPI Science Writer

Scientists say they have identified a carbohydrate-containing component in human milk that blocks the earliest stages of pediatric HIV infection.

The biochemists at Shriver Center for Mental Retardation in Waltham, Massachusetts, and Harvard Medical School report in *The Journal of Nutrition* the milk part called chondroitin sulfate blocks the binding of an HIV component to its host cell receptor. This is considered the first essential step in transmitting the virus from mother to child.

Formula milk does not contain the protective

element.

"The carbohydrate-containing molecules responsible for halting this first stage in HIV replication may provide a broad range of biologically anti-infectious properties in mother's milk," the researchers wrote.

While there is still controversy about whether HIV can be transmitted to the baby through breastfeeding, the researchers say their work points to yet another benefit of mother's milk. They say withholding breast milk "can have serious consequences for both HIV-infected and non-infected infants." ▼

Is the DeFrank Center's Paper Money Spent Fairly?

by Eric Payne

In December, 1991, gay activists in the South Bay began questioning the United Way of Santa Clara County's continued funding of the Boy Scouts of America. In an attempt to reconcile the dearth of funding offered by the UW to the gay community, the UW formed a committee to address any issues that could be eligible for funding.

Chaired by Susie Wilson, the committee reserved eight seats on the committee for the Billy DeFrank Lesbian and Gay Community Center. Wilson approached the center for assistance in selecting those persons.

Under then-President Neil Christie, four white males were appointed. The center then announced an application process to fill the remaining four seats, and placed emphasis on needing diversified candidates from which to choose, to off-set the four appointees.

When the majority of applicants proved to be white males, the center abandoned the application process, after the deadline for application had elapsed. Instead, the four appointees were asked to find another person each to fill the remaining seats, again stressing ethnic and gender diversity. Those four were then allowed to make applications; those applications were speedily approved.

Once in place, the recommendations of the UW Gay Issues Committee were given to a second committee for funding approval. One of the programs which qualified for funding was the outreach program of the DeFrank Center, one aspect of which is media advertising for the center and its programs.

In 1992, Christine Schmidt was one of the after-deadline appointees to the UW committee.

In 1992, Christine Schmidt became the program manager of the DeFrank Center, becoming responsible for the placement of advertising using those United Way funds.

In 1992, Christine Schmidt was also advertising representative for *OutNOW* newspaper.

Since 1992, all of the community newspaper advertising for the outreach programs of the center has appeared exclusively in *OutNOW*.

Conflict of interest - real or imagined?

A simple straight line: Schmidt served on the parent



Photo: Rick Gerharter

Cozy connection: *OutNOW's* relationship with San Jose's Billy DeFrank Lesbian and Gay Community Center has come under scrutiny.

committee of the funding organization; she received the funding, and, in her capacity at the center, was responsible for its placement; the advertising paid for with those funds appeared in the publication for which she served as advertising rep and, presumably, received a commission for the ad sales.

In 1993, as this investigation began, Chris Thomas, *OutNOW* publisher, claimed Schmidt did not receive commissions on advertising placed by the center.

There is a difference between program advertising - ads promoting the center and its outreach functions - and event advertising. The "Isn't It Romantic" dance, for instance, is an event, as is the weekly Bingo game held at the center. Events have their own advertising budgets and are responsible for placing their own ads.

Since its first issue, *OutNOW* has been advertising the Wednesday Gay Bingo games at the center. One of the persons serving on the Bingo Committee that placed the advertising was Thomas, *OutNOW* publisher. In 1993, he claimed he had no input in the placement of that ad - which still runs exclusively in every issue of his publication.

This year, however, Thomas declined to comment. When reached by telephone he stated the time, 5:43 pm, was "not a good time" to answer any questions. When asked when would

be a good time, he responded, "Probably never, because I have nothing to say to you."

Schmidt declined to make any comment at all.

Under new management - following established procedure

In August 1994, after Schmidt officially left the cen-

ter, Nikki Nichols, publisher of another San Jose gay periodical, *Our Paper*, received a bid package for upcoming center advertising. Though allegedly separated from management duties at the center, the cover letter for the package bore Schmidt's signature.

Ralph Serpe, new program manager, explained the bid

package was required by the UW for expenditures in excess of \$250. At a meeting of the DeFrank board of directors, however, Serpe refuted that statement, and admitted the "bid package" originated with his office and not the UW.

When asked why the "community" center did not just place smaller advertisements with all three South Bay mass-circulated gay periodicals, Serpe claimed that action would be "impossible," and defended the bidding process as a legitimate business practice.

Yet *Valley Views*, the third San Jose periodical, never received a bid package, according to publisher Mike Allen. Leery of revealing her business practices to a person who also represented a competitor, *Our Paper's* Nichols did not return the bid.

At the February 13 board of director's meeting, at which President of the Board Michael Mitchell resigned, the board conceded there had been a "seeming" conflict of interest, and agreed to determine a way to "level the playing field" to insure any unfair advantage given to a single publication based on past acts be negated in future advertising placement. ▼

[Editor's note: Eric Payne writes for *Our Paper*, *OUTNow's* competitor.]

MAX Will Sponsor CUAV Fundraiser

Community United Against Violence (CUAV) will be the beneficiary of the next Men's Associated Exchange (MAX) fundraiser, Friday, March 31, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Neiman Marcus' Rotunda Restaurant at 130 Stockton Street in the city.

The fundraiser will be in conjunction with MAX's celebration of its 100th biweekly "Thank God It's Friday" (TGIF) cocktail party. Cost is \$10, including entertainment. In addition to a no-host bar, MAX will raffle prizes to raise funds for CUAV.

—Kent Bradley

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OBITUARIES

OBITUARY POLICY

Obituaries must be typed and no longer than 200 words. Please follow normal rules of capitalization - and no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar and taste.

If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap.

Deadline for all obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m.

Karl Patsch

Jan. 15, 1947 - March 9, 1995



Karl and I taught each other how to love, and now he is gone. He will be missed by many people. There will be a memorial service for us at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, March 24.
Auf wiedersehen, liebchen. ▼

Dolores "Pal" Abler

February 27, 1995

Dolores "Pal" Abler, a 25-year resident of San Francisco, died Monday,



February 27, at her San Francisco home. She was 61.

One of Pal's favorite hobbies was playing softball for Maud's, where she pitched for many years and where she often helped cook many holiday meals. She also bowled in league and loved to go fishing. In addition, Pal enjoyed the ocean and sunny days at Golden Gate Park. She was an active member of G.L.O.E., where she had made many friends.

Pal is survived by her loving daughter, Rebecca Gordillo of San Lorenzo; a son, Anthony Abler of Denver, Colorado; one brother, Dale Gillespie of El Paso, Texas; four sisters, Dolly Seller of Lucerne, Bonnie Boers of Middletown, Leone Schaefer of Las Vegas (Nevada) and Betty Schoning of Spencer (Iowa); two grandchildren, Vanessa and Ryan; and numerous nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held on April 2 from 2 to 5 p.m. at Leticia's, 2247 Market St., San Francisco, CA (415) 621-0441. ▼

Phillip "Monti" Lane

Sept. 28, 1944 - March 4, 1995

Monti passed away peacefully in the apartment he so loved and had lived in for 20 years. He was the center of a circle of true friends who came for stimulating conversation and to spend happy hours viewing his entertainment center.

Monti was a friend acquainted with death - the same death he died - and never failed to lend a helping hand or shoulder to cry on. He spoke out for the gay community in a positive and creative way - let the world know he was a member and proud of it.

One of Monti's favorite pastimes was having a beer and holding court at one of the back tables at The Gangway. He was dedicated to his job as night clerk at the Miyako Hotel and is fondly remembered by his co-workers.

Monti is survived by his father, Jack Lane, who was with him to the very time of his passing, and his many friends, Lynn, David Botch, Hunter, Rick, Bill, John Wise, Daryl, Bob Vierra and the gang at The Gangway.

A celebration of Monti's life will be held at The Gangway, 841 Larkin, on March 25 at 4 p.m. ▼

David Robert Nowicki

Dec. 16, 1942 - March 5, 1995

Surrounded by brother Edward, sister-in-law Kathleen, Kathleen's mother Elfriede and nieces Allison, Christine and Erin, David's last months fighting AIDS in Maine were filled with love and attention. He is also survived by his parents, Edward J. and Christine Nowicki.

David received his bachelor's in history in 1964 from Franklin and Marshall College, an M.A. in history in 1966 from the University of Wisconsin and an MBA in 1977 from Northwestern University. He taught history at Willamette University in Oregon for three years before following his passion for railroads.

David worked for the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway and the Trailer Train Company in Illinois, as well as the Western Pacific Railroad Company in San Francisco. Prior to his retirement in 1993, he was a financial administrator for 10 years at the Federal Reserve Bank in San Francisco.

An avid rail fan, accomplished musician, serious student of Greek studies and lover of cats, David was also a volunteer at the Shanti Project for years.

A celebration of David's life will be held April 29. Call (415) 826-3553 for details. Donations may be made to Peabody House AIDS Hospice, 14 Orchard St., Portland, ME 04102. ▼

Stephen Mack aka Stephen Maxxxine

Dec. 19, 1960 - March 17, 1995

As the full moon began its ascent into the evening sky, Stephen Maxxxine traveled from this world.



Friday, March 17. His passage was peaceful and painless, ending a long private battle with AIDS.

Stephen belonged to a large extended family who loved and respected him for his vision and eccentricities. His life tied together many threads of San Francisco's subcultures, thoroughly entangled in the salon culture of Klubbstitute and Club Uranus, woven from the freedom and beauty of the Radical Faeries. He also mixed a mean martini.

Stephen believed in affirmation and blessing, the sacredness of personal contribution and strength through unity. The scent of burning sage, the awakening of the third eye, mundane yet sacred objects. These were images of Stephen's life, which personified the dream of San Francisco, a young gay immigrant to the City of Hope.

Stephen Maxxxine, sagacious father of the Jones clan, has joined his wife, Desiree, who traveled before him, a third crow above the Headlands.

For information concerning a commemoration of Maxxxine's life, call (415) 759-7246 for location and time. Dress as Maxxxine would wish and bear a single white rose. ▼

Jeffrey Struckman

Nov. 4, 1956 - Feb. 12, 1995

Jeff died after a brief battle with AIDS. He moved to the Bay Area in 1986. He loved San Francisco for its color, life and the freedom to be out as a gay man.



A well-known costume and scenic designer, Jeff's greatest achievement was his own life. His greatest legacy will be his friendships.

Jeff lived every moment of every day. He was a multitude of characters who brought out the childlike, playful energy in everyone they met. Halloween won't be the same without Taffy Sinclair or Jeff's equally charming Road Warrior.

While we are sure he is setting the stage in another sphere, his greatest regret was the fun he was going to miss after he left us. He is sorely missed.

Jeff is survived by his parents, Lou and Betty, and his sister, Lisa Williamson. John and Tim, Pamela, Dale, Carlos, Cianna and Tom (and countless men) would like to say, till later, thanks for the memories. ▼

Jeffrey I. Presement

March 9, 1995

Jeff, 36, peacefully left us on Thursday, March 9, at his residence in San Francisco.



He was the loving partner of Scott Gaffin; beloved and loving son of Harvey and Ruth Presement; loving brother and brother-in-law of Michael, of Melanie, and the devoted grandson of Sally and Al Presement. Jeff was loved and will be missed by his family of friends: the Gaffin family, Marilyn Martella, Suzanne Clarke, Jeffery Bernavich and Charles Baldwin.

Jeff was the former director of Supportive and HIV Services for Walden House Inc. of San Francisco. In this capacity he oversaw all professional mental health caregivers and directed HIV services. Jeff was the first person to successfully manage both programs, though many others had tried. As a licensed MFCC and Ph.D., he maintained a private practice in San Francisco.

Dearest friend to many, he touched the lives of all who knew him, and we will miss him dearly. A memorial service will be held at Walden House, 890 Hayes St., on Saturday, April 1, at 1 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Jeff's name to the AIDS charity or substance-abuse recovery charity of your choice. ▼

Eric Reed Batts

July 28, 1943 - March 4, 1995

Eric died unexpectedly Saturday morning, March 4, of AIDS. His friends



Preston, Elsa and Jim were at his Kaiser bedside. His prayers answered, death came quietly with little pain. Eric's love and trust in God, his devotion to previously departed friends, contributed to the ease of his own death.

An optician for 25 years, Eric most recently worked at Kaiser Optical. Often giving the illusion of good health, Eric dealt with each medical setback with strength and optimism. He had complete trust and the highest of praise for the entire staff at Kaiser. We know that Eric would want to express his thanks for their care and compassion.

Eric cherished his many friendships, finding enjoyment with everyone he met. His life touched many. His absence has left a void in all our hearts.

It was Eric's wish that no memorial service be held. His ashes are to be taken into the Mohave Desert and spread in the warmth of the sun.

A celebration of his life is planned for Saturday, April 8. Call 255-0989 for details. Donations can be made to the Most Holy Redeemer Church or to your favorite AIDS organization.

Take flight with the angels, dear friend. ▼

Michael Robert Castillo

Nov. 7, 1949 - March 14, 1995

Michael's year and a half battle with his illness was valiantly fought. Even during his last week, which he



was able to spend at home, he often told those of us with him that "I'm all right." He passed Tuesday morning in the company of Ray, his partner of 18 years; his sister, Kim; Debra, his daytime attendant; and Robyn, his very first home care nurse who had stopped in to visit him.

Michael was always caring, generous to a fault and kind beyond words. He was a gentleman and a special friend to many of his former co-workers at American President Cos., his bowling team and crewmates on his whaleboat racing team. How fortunate we all are to have been blessed with such a wonderful soul in our lives.

Michael is survived by his parents, Robert and Helen; a second sister, Vicki; her family in Healdsburg; many aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews; and many loving friends.

A memorial was held last Saturday, March 18, at home in Alameda. After cremation, interment will be at the National Cemetery in Phoenix, Ariz., this Friday, March 24.

Michael, your life has touched our hearts forever. We love you. ▼

Garrett D. Dorsey

Aug. 22, 1956 - March 10, 1995

From his enjoyment of Celtic music, to his favorite color, green, to those fabulous Dorsey eyes, Garrett was truly a son of Ireland. A middle son of a large (and as it turned out, very gay) Irish family, Garrett made his escape from Miami, Fla., to the freedom of San Francisco in 1978.

Garrett graduated from San Francisco State and returned to the city after he earned his law degree at Temple University in 1986.

Garrett loved his family, his friends, traveling, collecting icons, being right and shopping. He always considered it a character defect to pay full retail. An active member of AA for 13 years, he prized his sobriety as his greatest achievement. Before retiring, Garrett managed the Castro Country Club for several years.

A memorial service will be held on March 31 at 7 p.m. at the Swedenborgian Church, 3200 Washington St. (Washington at Lyon), SF. Donations may be made to 18th Street Services, 217 Church Street, San Francisco, CA 94114 in lieu of flowers. ▼

OBITUARIES

Adam Kent Hart

March 21, 1962 - March 10, 1995

Adam Kent Hart, youngest son of Sam D. Hart Sr. and Vergie B. Hart, died on March 10 of complications from AIDS. At his bedside were his companion, Nathan Hawley, and his family. The body was cremated in California, and the ashes will be interred in Columbus, Georgia.

Mr. Hart was born in Wilson, North Carolina, and graduated from Kendrick High School in Columbus in June 1980. Upon graduation Mr. Hart pursued a career in modeling in Washington, D.C. There his striking features, natural charm and talent for presentation won him a public relations position in a major hotel corporation. In 1989 Mr. Hart relocated to San Francisco, where he became widely admired for his talents in the decorative arts. Prior to his illness he worked for the McKesson Corporation, and enjoyed spending his free time working as a freelance interior design consultant in the Bay Area.

Mr. Hart is survived by his parents; his companion; five siblings, Alicia Ford, Sam D. Hart Jr., Peter A. Hart, David F. Hart Jr. and Karen H. Ryan; one niece; and two nephews. Memorial services will be held in San Francisco at a later date. ▼

Jim Lewis (Slayden)

June 5, 1941 - Feb. 21, 1995

Jim, a gay leader of ACT UP/SF and enemy of "consensus reality," died of cancer at his home in San Francisco.



In his teens Jim hung with the beatniks in Greenwich Village, wrote poetry and news, and played the violin and piano. Later, he hitchhiked throughout this and other countries.

Discovering astrology in the 1970s, Jim ended a wandering lifestyle, giving up smoking, drinking, coffee and drugs. He developed astro-cartography, for which he was known worldwide.

As a founder of ACT UP/SF's Prison Issues Committee, Jim helped coordinate the 1992 demonstrations which led to hearings by Assemblyperson John Burton and then to improved medical care for male HIV and AIDS prisoners.

Jim worked for improved health care at the Central California Women's Prison at Chowchilla. Thanks to Jim's efforts, a bill (compassionate release) to release dying prisoners has been introduced this year in the California Legislature.

Jim is survived by his sister, Anne Slayden, and close friends, Gent Sturgeon and Ron Mahka, who cared for him and were with him when he died.

Contributions to East Bay Habitat for Humanity, Chowchilla Coalition (P.O. Box 14844, San Francisco, CA 94114-4844) or KPFA. ▼

Brent Eldon Wirt

June 20, 1954 - Feb. 21, 1995

Brent lived in San Francisco from 1979 to 1989. He then moved to Houston, where in December 1993, he suffered an attack of CMV which paralyzed him from the waist down.

He was cared for by his parents in Andover, Kansas, from January to July 1994. During that time he miraculously regained command of his legs and body functions to the extent that he was able to rejoin and care for his lover, Dan Twichell, who had returned to San Francisco after Brent's catastrophic illness at the end of 1993.

Dan died on November 6, 1994. Brent was blinded by CMV retinitis shortly after Christmas and returned to the care of his parents in Andover in January 1995. He fought valiantly to overcome his physical deterioration in order to care for Dan, but having completed this final goal and exhausted from his seven-year battle with AIDS, he succumbed to PCP on February 21.

Brent is survived by his parents, Charles and Glennie; sister, Shelley Donaldson; brother-in-law, Larry; nephew, Julian; brother, Brian; nephew, Nigel; and also "Bob the Cat."

We love and will miss you, Brent. ▼

HEALTH NEWS

SF AIDS Foundation Asks Merck To Provide More MK-639

by Kent Bradley

Merck, the largest pharmaceutical company in the world, is dragging its feet and could do ten-fold more on behalf of desperate AIDS patients, the San Francisco AIDS Foundation charges.

On Friday, March 17, the non-profit community-based AIDS service organization called on pharmaceutical giant Merck and Company to provide its promising new protease inhibitor drug, MK-639, to at least 3,000 severely ill people with AIDS who have no other treatment options.

Earlier Merck told AIDS community representatives the company has only enough MK-639 to supply a "compassionate use" program for 300 people by June of this year and for 1,400 by the end of the year, according to information provided by Dave Ford, SF AIDS Foundation spokesman.

"We believe that Merck can produce enough MK-639 for 3,000 AIDS patients well before the end of 1995," said Ronald Baker, editor of the *Bulletin of Experimental Treatments for AIDS (BETA)*, the AIDS treatment news magazine published by the San Francisco AIDS Foundation. "MK-639 has shown great promise in the treatment of people with advanced AIDS. Gravely ill individuals who have no other treatment options should have access to the Merck drug as

soon as possible," Baker said.

He indicated the SF AIDS Foundation joined Project Inform, ACT-UP Golden Gate and ACT-UP New York in a "consensus statement" on accelerated approval of the protease inhibitor drugs endorsed by over 50 community-based groups to Food and Drug Administration Commissioner David Kessler in February.

The consensus statement calls on the manufacturers of the three leading protease inhibitor drugs - Merck and Company, Abbott Laboratories, and Hoffman-LaRoche - to apply for accelerated approval of the new drugs before the year's end. "Accelerated approval would make these promising treatments available, by prescription, to large numbers of people living with HIV infection and AIDS," a statement from SF AIDS Foundation said.

The new protease inhibitor drug from Merck represents the best hope for prolonging life and delaying disease progression among tens of thousands of people with AIDS, an editorial appearing in the March *BETA* said. In February, Baker indicated, the *Wall Street Journal* quoted Merck executives as saying that MK-639 is the best AIDS drug yet tested.

"Given the promising data on MK-639, Merck has a responsibility to do everything possible to make this potentially life-prolonging treatment immediately available to people with AIDS who have

exhausted the limited benefits from other AIDS drugs," Baker said.

The SF AIDS Foundation asks supporters of people with AIDS to fax or mail Merck a memo that calls on the company to establish a "compassionate use" program for MK-639 as soon as possible. ▼

■ Copies of the "Memo to Merck" may be obtained by calling the San Francisco AIDS Foundation's hotline at (415) 863-AIDS.

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Cash for HIV+ Donors

Plasma Infusion Therapy is a safe, painless treatment involving the exchange of plasma from one HIV+ person to another, believed beneficial to both. \$150 offered to anyone willing to be a donor, at an SF clinic which also offers free blood work.

You should have a T-cell count of over 400 and a P24 antibody count of over 200 to qualify.

Call Steve at (408) 338-6110. Thank You

Benjamin Roman Ponce

Jan. 1, 1966 - Feb. 11, 1995

Benjamin Roman Ponce died at his sister's home in Vallejo after a short



AIDS-related illness. He was born in Denver and moved to San Francisco in 1986, where he worked for Mama's Restaurant and at Supreme Salads. He moved back to Rapid City, S.D., in 1988. Benjamin returned to Vallejo in 1994, where he

worked for Respite Family services as a health-care provider, and he was active at the Solano Center for AIDS Services.

Many thanks to all the people who helped with his care, including his sister Thelma Hudson and her family, the hospice nurses at Kaiser in Vallejo and his many friends. Benji, we will miss you very much. ▼

Alvaro Martinez

Oct. 10, 1950 - Feb. 9, 1995

We lost a friend, confidant and brother on February 9 at Kaiser



Hospital in Oakland after a long bout with AIDS. He left to join his lover, Anthony Ferraro, who departed 14 months ago.

Special thanks go to the staff of Kaiser Oakland Hospice, especially Tim Moore, Betsy Bozzolo, Lee Forsemper and Dennis, for being there for him till the end.

Alvaro was a native of Colombia. He lived in New York for several years, then moved to San Francisco, where he worked for many years at Cost Plus at Fisherman's Wharf. We will all miss his sense of humor and his great personality. ▼

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SERVICIOS DISPONIBLES EN ESPAÑOL

Perfect Victims

by Michael C. Botkin

Queers are to presidential candidate/Governor Pete Wilson what Jews were to Hitler in his early days. Wilson's latest posturing about blocking adoptions by gays and lesbians triggered my always simmering "holocaustophobia" – the irrational (?) fear that someone's going to throw me in a concentration camp. He has cast us as scapegoats and plans to sacrifice us on the altar of bigotry to the fundamentalist Christians in order to win the presidency.

Wilson's determination to reinstate a Deukmejian-era policy, which recommends against allowing adoption by unmarried couples, is widely and accurately perceived as an ostentatious offering on his part to the fundies, who have always reviled Wilson as a "moderate" – soft on gays and pro-choice. He's largely shrugged off their bitter attacks with little cost in statewide elections, given California's progressive bent, but he's worried that they could be a crucial swing vote in the coming Republican primaries.

Few doubt that Wilson would cream President Clinton in a general election; personally I'd give him about two-to-one odds. But winning the Republican primary is a longer shot, more like two-to-one against Wilson, featuring as it does a "moderate" Dole front-running with a couple of hardcore

reactionaries at his heels. Dole's a pathetic campaigner, and the plurality of conservatives could serve to dilute their impact, but in such a field, Wilson can ill-afford the entrenched enmity of the fundies.

When the going gets tough, the tough start looking for likely victims to throw to the wolves. Demonizing immigrants a la Prop. 187 got Pete re-elected as governor, and it will probably continue to play a prominent role in his coming campaign. But he needed a particularly

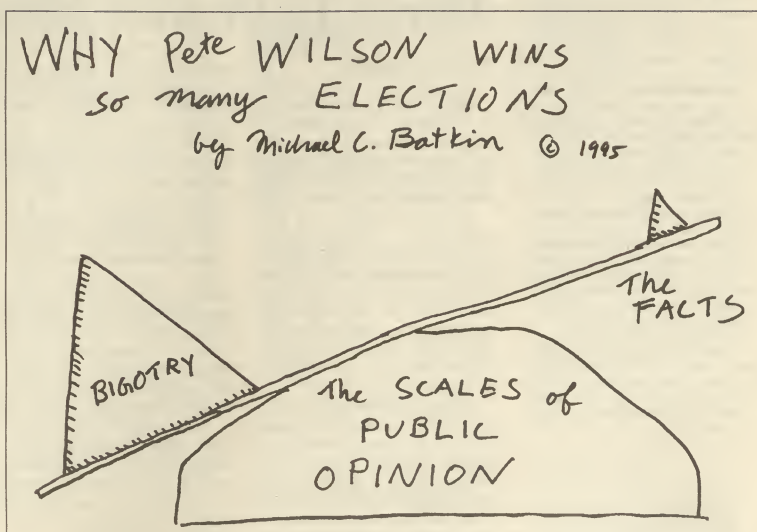
Commentary

tasty morsel to throw to the Christians, and they hate queers more than anybody. By persecuting us, Wilson can pass their most basic litmus test of political correctness.

That the policy change does not explicitly target queers – just "unmarried couples" – shows the delicate Wilson touch. He can deny the homophobic intent of the policy while reaping its political benefits. And he was clever in going after us at our most vulnerable point, the right to raise kids. Some moderates are willing to let us serve in the military, but mainstream sentiment brands all queers as "recruiters" at best and molesters at worst when it comes to children.

Denounce or co-opt?

It's no fun being a popular scapegoat. Good victims, politi-



cally or otherwise, are weak, vulnerable and isolated. It's no accident that all the times I was queer-bashed I was in poor health and looked like an easy target. Politically speaking, the gay and lesbian movement is about as healthy as a frail PWA. We got trashed on the military debate, face a rising tide of anti-gay legislation, and our national organizations – assuming that they can even be classified as "organizations," as "national" and as "ours" – have devolved

into irrelevant bureaucracies.

What does any Republican politician competing for the bigot vote have to fear from us? Wilson would like nothing more, right now, than to be a high-profile target of queer rage. It would validate him with the fundies more than anything else could. He's dared to differ with them on abortion rights, but tolerating homosexuality is a line he's been careful not to cross. Now if he leads a homophobic campaign while his conservative competition merely dithers, he can steal away the bigot constituency from its would-be fundamentalist brokers.

The genius of Wilson-style scapegoating, whether targeting immigrants or queers, is that it paralyzes its victims and fragments their potential allies. When confronted with the covert racism of Prop. 187, the Democrats couldn't figure out if they should denounce it or try to co-opt it, and waited until a mere month before the election to come out against it – even then hedging their criticism with counterproposals to beef up the border guards.

It's also hard to figure out how to punish Wilson for fear-mongering. The Democrats, one assumes, were afraid to brand him a racist for fear this label would help more than it hurt. Would Queer National demonstrations denouncing Wilson as a homophobe do any better, particularly in a Republican primary?

Any counterstrategy would have to be as devious as Wilson's onslaught to be effective. Perhaps gays and lesbians could demonstrate on Wilson's behalf at Republican campaign events, trashing his conservative opponents. "Queers for Wilson" sporting conservative, gender-appropriate clothing with discreet pink-triangle badges could circulate at Republican caucuses distributing fliers praising the governor as a closet friend of homosexuals.

This is absurd to anyone who knows the facts. Even the Log Cabin Republicans, those masters of masochistic self-abasement, found that they couldn't endorse Wilson last time around (they had done so on his first run for governor when he promised to sign AB101, the then-pending gay rights bill – a promise he soon broke). But what have facts got to do with anything when you're dealing with prejudice?

allies in our recent past. The debate on gays in the military, so far as it went, pretty much debunked the standard complaints against queers in the ranks. Even the Pentagon's own commissioned independent study found no practical reason for discharging homosexual soldiers. The homophobes' last ditch and ultimately successful argument was that the majority of military personnel would be uncomfortable knowing homos were in the ranks. Of course, the same logic for coddling bigotry could be (and was) used to argue for racial segregation in the Army.

The data on gays and parenting and child-rearing, such as it is, entirely fails to support the popular prejudice against us in these roles. Any one who knows or cares anything about kids understands that having at least one strong and loving caregiver is essential for their basic well-being, and that the race, gender, age, sexual orientation and marital status of that person are unimportant.

The kids' welfare, alas, is of little account these days; just look at the recent push to eliminate school lunches. Kids can't vote, so they're good victims, too, like immigrants and us queers. Besides, Wilson's much-touted policy change may never even get implemented in any serious way. He probably doesn't care if it does or not, truth be told, provided the issue stays hot and prominent during the crucial months of the Republican primary.

Oddly, I would fear Wilson less if he were a sincere homophobe. Hardcore unreasoning bigots like the more extreme gay-haters are so irrational that they often come off as kooky and creepy. Since Wilson isn't bound by a rigid ideology like they are, he can afford to waffle and fudge in a way that softens the hardest edges of his homophobia, at least in the eyes of the mainstream media.

In contrast, that such a consummate media manipulator as Pete Wilson finds us to be his perfect victims scares me. Unlike the fundies, his campaign against us is merely a means toward an end, rather than the desired end in itself. But we may suffer more from his pragmatic maneuvering than we do from their holy crusading. ▼

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HEALTH AND COMMUNITY

ACT UP Golden Gate: meets Tues. nights, 7:30pm at Mobilization Against AIDS, 584 Castro St. Info: 252-9200.

AIDS Benefits Counselors: Professional review and counseling about benefits for people with AIDS/HIV+. Free. For intake scheduling, screening, referral, call 558-9845.

AIDS Health Project: Mixed caregivers and women's caregivers groups; drop-in groups for HIV+ and PWA, more. Info, intake interviews: 476-3902.

AIDS/HIV Nightline provides telephone emotional support and crisis counseling. Volunteers needed: training begins soon. 984-1902.

Boy + Boy: actions which promote safe sex among young gay and bi men. Tues., 7pm at Stop AIDS Project, 201 Sanchez. 575-1545 x80Y.

Hepatitis "B" Testing and vaccinations for young (15-23) gay and bisexual men, free. Berkeley Free Clinic, 2339 Durant Ave., Berkeley, Sun., 5-7pm. (510) 644-0425.

HIV/AIDS Services at Operation Concern: Ongoing support groups, individual and couples counseling, drop-in groups every week. Issues for HIV+ men, men with AIDS/ARC, partners and survivors. For information/intake, call Jill, 626-7000 x199. Operation Concern, 1853 Market St.

Immune Enhancement Project treats persons with HIV-related illness using a program of traditional Chinese medicine and herbal supplements. Info: 252-8711.

Prejudice Reduction and Diversity Awareness Workshop presented by National Coalition Building Institute. Sun., March 26, 9am. \$15-75. Women's Bldg., 3543 18th St. 522-7448.

Project Open Hand provides free home-delivered hot meals and free groceries to anyone with symptomatic HIV in San Francisco and Alameda Counties. Various ethnic and restricted diets available, plus free nutritional counseling. No waiting list. Call 1-800-551-MEAL.

Richmond Area Multi-Services in SF: offers low fee counseling/ psychotherapy services to sexual minorities, people with HIV/AIDS. Supportive therapeutic group for family/ loved ones of PWAs. English, Cantonese, Mandarin, Korean, Russian, Japanese, Mangso, 668-5955.

SF Unified School District public mtg. to learn the concerns of the lesbian and gay community. Video on homophobia in the schools. Sun., March 26, 2-3pm at Everett Middle School, 450 Church St.

Stop AIDS Project meeting for men 50 and over, Sun., March 26, 1pm. 201 Sanchez. 621-7177.

Substance Abuse Counseling for Lesbians and Gay Men at Operation Concern, 1853 Market St. Operation Recovery provides affordable, effective treatment. Drop-in groups: for women, 7-8 pm Mondays; for men, 8-9 pm Thursdays. For information/ intake, call Jill, 626-7000 Ext. 199.

UCSF AIDS Health Project offers: (1) ongoing groups for persons diagnosed with KS; (2) Tues. night support group for women who are caregivers or family members of PWAs; (3) support group for HIV+ African-American heterosexual men. Info: 476-3902.

Under One Roof, the shop for AIDS relief, seeks volunteers Call Mary Beth at 252-9430.

Veterans Affairs Medical Center SF seeks volunteers to join its AIDS/ARC Volunteer Program. Volunteers visit patients in hospital and help in simple care tasks. Volunteers for AIDS Home Care and Phone Buddy Program are also needed. Contact Ronald Hunt, AIDS Volunteer Program Coordinator, VA Medical Center, 4150 Clement St., 750-2144.

We Care Bay Area provides emergency financial support to individuals affected by AIDS and other serious illnesses. Requests must be made thru a Bay Area outreach or social service agency. Info: 282-1911.

Send Health and Community Listings to: Calendar Editor, Bay Area Reporter, 395 Ninth Street, San Francisco, CA 94103.

CLASSIFIEDS

LEGAL NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 193716

The following person(s) are doing business as SENIOR TOURS, 149 Turk St. San Francisco, CA 94102. SENIOR TOURS, INC., 149 Turk St., San Francisco, CA 94102. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of February 28, 1995. This business is conducted by individual. Signed JOSEPH P. SHORE, Vice President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February 28, 1995.

March 9, 16, 23, 30, 1995

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 193767

The following person(s) are doing business as ABOUT JANITORIAL SERVICE, 241 Yale Street, San Francisco, CA 94134: OLLIE McDOWELL, 241 Yale Street, San Francisco, CA 94134. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of March 15, 1995. This business is conducted by individual. Signed OLLIE McDOWELL. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on March 01, 1995.

March 9, 16, 23, 30, 1995

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 193737

The following person(s) are doing business as ARIES PRODUCTIONS, 421 Hickory Street, San Francisco, CA 94102: RAINEY J. MATTHEWS JR., 421 Hickory Street, San Francisco, CA 94102. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by individual. Signed RAINEY J. MATTHEWS JR. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February 28, 1995.

March 9, 16, 23, 30, 1995

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 193773

The following person(s) are doing business as BAY AREA IMMUNE RESEARCH, 236 West Portal Avenue, Suite 529, San Francisco, CA 94127. BAY AREA IMMUNE RESEARCH, 236 West Portal Avenue, Suite 529, San Francisco, CA 94127. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by individual. Signed SHARON O'LEARY, Vice President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on March 01, 1995.

March 9, 16, 23, 30, 1995

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 193482

The following person(s) are doing business as LESLIE'S HAIR & NAILS, 1548 Fillmore Street, San Francisco, CA 94115: TRUONG CUONG LUNG, 1367 Buissells Street, San Francisco, CA 94134. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of February 21, 1995. This business is conducted by individual. Signed TRUONG CUONG LUNG. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February 21, 1995.

March 16, 23, 30, 1995 April 6, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 194008

The following person(s) are doing business as M.B.R. MEDICAL SPECIALTY PRODUCTS, 236 West Portal Avenue, #427, San Francisco, CA 94127. MARCIE RAND, 236 West Portal Avenue, #427, San Francisco, CA 94127. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of March 10, 1995. This business is conducted by individual. Signed MARCIE RAND. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on March 10, 1995.

March 16, 23, 30, 1995, April 6, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 193871

The following person(s) are doing business as AVT SOFTWARE CO., 4110 Geary Blvd., Suite 202, San Francisco, CA 94116: LILY TONG, 2207 27th Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94116. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of March 06, 1995. This business is conducted by individual. Signed LILY TONG. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on March 06, 1995.

March 16, 23, 30, 1995 April 06, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 193835

The following person(s) are doing business as THE JANSSEN GROUP, 665 Chestnut Street, 3rd Floor, San Francisco, CA 94133: JOHN J. LISTON, 900 Ridge Road, Laytonville, CA 95454. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of March 03, 1995. This business is conducted by individual. Signed JOHN J. LISTON. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on March 03, 1995.

March 9, 16, 23, 30, 1995

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 193391

The following person(s) are doing business as KRETLOW ENTERPRISES, 2633 30th Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94131: LYNDIA M. KRETLOW, 2633 30th Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94131. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by individual. Signed LYNDIA M. KRETLOW. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February 16, 1995.

March 16, 23, 30, 1995, April 6, 1995

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 193898

The following person(s) are doing business as TELIK COMMUNICATION, 880 Franklin Street, #307, San Francisco, CA 94102: INGRID B. KREIS, 880 Franklin Street, #307, San Francisco, CA 94102. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by individual. Signed INGRID B. KREIS. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on March 07, 1995, 1995.

March 16, 23, 30, 1995, April 07, 1995

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 193955

The following person(s) are doing business as SUPER INFO HIGHWAY, 325 Lakeview Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94112: FRANCIS LEE, 325 Lakeview Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94112. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of March 08, 1995. This business is conducted by individual. Signed FRANCIS LEE. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on March 08, 1995.

March 16, 23, 30, 1995, April 07, 1995

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 193923

The following person(s) are doing business as THE BALLESTEROS GROUP, 154 Divisadero Street, San Francisco, CA 94117: JOHNNY L. BALLESTEROS, 154 Divisadero Street, San Francisco, CA 94117. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of March 07, 1995. This business is conducted by individual. Signed JOHNNY L. BALLESTEROS. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on March 07, 1995, 1995.

March 16, 23, 30, 1995, April 07, 1995

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 193904

The following person(s) are doing business as YOUNG TUNA SEAFOOD, Pier 35, San Francisco, CA 94107: Agatupu Letao Jr., 1081 Trestle Glen Road, Oakland, CA 94610 and SELINA REYES, 1061 Trestle Glen Road, Oakland, CA 94610. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by individual. Signed SELINA REYES. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on March 07, 1995.

March 16, 23, 30, 1995 April 07, 1995

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 0154312

The following person has abandoned the use of the fictitious business known as SENIOR TOURS UNLIMITED, at 149 Turk Street, San Francisco, CA 94102. The fictitious name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco, on August 28, 1991. Name and address of registrants: WALTER T. JOHNSON, 155 Turk Street, #101, San Francisco, CA 94102 and CHRIS A. MUELLER, 155 Turk Street, #101, San Francisco, CA 94102. This business was conducted by a co-partners. Signed: WALTER T. JOHNSON. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of San Francisco County on date February 28, 1995. Bruce H. Jamison, County Clerk-Recorder, by Keith Wong.

March 16, 23, 30, 1995 April 07, 1995.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 967973

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of ANN KATHERINE VELOZ for change of name. The application of ANN KATHERINE VELOZ for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application the ANN KATHERINE VELOZ has filed an application proposing that HER name be changed to KATHERINE MARIE XAVIER. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department X-4 on the 18th day of April, 1995, at 9:00 o'clock AM, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this Order be published in the BAY AREA REPORTER, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this day of March 13, 1995.

March 23, 30, 1995, April 6, 13, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 193310

The following person(s) are doing business as BEAT BOOKS, 540 Hayes Street, San Francisco, CA 94102: ELLEN L. ANDERSON, 87 Eucalyptus Road, Berkeley, CA 94705 and LINDA C. HARRISON, 87 Eucalyptus Road, Berkeley, CA 94705. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by co-partners. Signed ELLEN ANDERSON. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February 14, 1995.

March 2, 9, 16, 23, 1995

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 193599

The following person(s) are doing business as 20E O.Y. HUANG ENTERPRISE, 3771 Clay Street, San Francisco, CA 94118: QIUYAN HUANG, 3771 Clay Street, San Francisco, CA 94118. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of February 23, 1995. This business is conducted by individual. Signed QIUYAN HUANG. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February 23, 1995.

March 2, 9, 16, 23, 1995

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LEGAL NOTICES

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT FILE NO. 193478**
The following person(s) are doing business as WILLMANN ANTIQUES, 650 King Street, San Francisco, CA 94107: ALFRED M. WILLMANN, 922 Alturas, Mill Valley, CA 94041. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of February 17, 1995. This business is conducted by individual. Signed A. Willmann. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February 17, 1995.
March 2, 9, 16, 23 1995

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT FILE NO. 193650**
The following person(s) are doing business as SWEET ADDITIONS, Hunter Point Naval Shipyard, Bldg 110, San Francisco, CA 94124: CARLUS P. SHARPE, 38 Haight Street, San Francisco, CA 94102. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the

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date of N/A. This business is conducted by individual. Signed CARLUS P. SHARPE. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February 24, 1995.
March 2, 9, 16, 23, 1995

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT FILE NO. 193543**
The following person(s) are doing business as DISCOUNT AQUARIUM, 253 Leavenworth Street, San Francisco, CA 94102: LAM PHAT TIEN, 420 39th Street, Richmond, CA 94805. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of February 22, 1995. This business is conducted by individual. Signed PHAT LAM. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February 22, 1995.
March 2, 9, 16, 23, 1995

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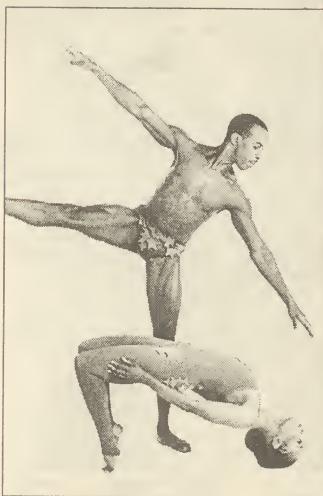
Alvin Ailey's
American
Dance Theatre

History Repeats Itself— There's Nothing Like It

by Wendell Ricketts

With the Northern California appearance of the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre now complete, Bay Area audiences may have to wait a long while before local stages are graced again with such a résumé of American modern dance history.

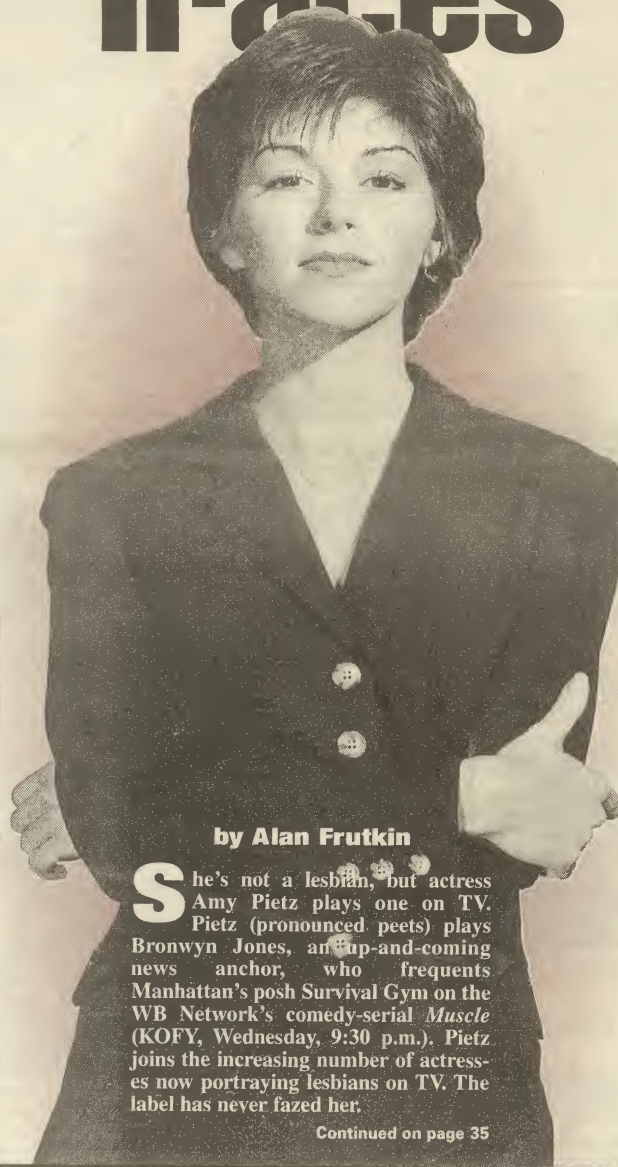
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Carmina Burana

Muscle's Bronwyn
Is More Than A Sex Drive

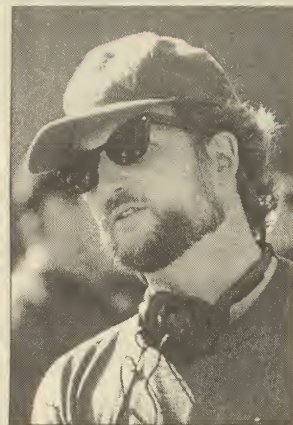
Lipstick Traces



by Alan Frutkin

She's not a lesbian, but actress Amy Pietz plays one on TV. Pietz (pronounced peets) plays Bronwyn Jones, an up-and-coming news anchor, who frequents Manhattan's posh Survival Gym on the WB Network's comedy-serial *Muscle* (KOFY, Wednesday, 9:30 p.m.). Pietz joins the increasing number of actresses now portraying lesbians on TV. The label has never faded her.

Continued on page 35



Director Kevin Dowling

'The Sum of Us' Reaches the Silver Screen Australian Odyssey

by Jerry Metzker

They drive on the left side of the road and speak in thick, peculiar accents. Their major athletic pastime is an equipment-free version of football, and they wear shorts when they go shopping for a Christmas tree. We could only be talking about Australia, the setting for Kevin Dowling's *The Sum of Us*, which opened last week at the Castro and continues there through the end of the month.

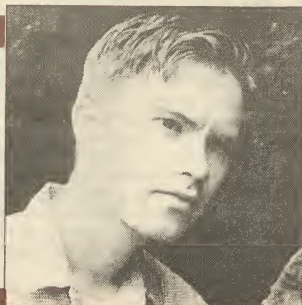
The film follows the life of a gay, working-class bloke in his early thirties named Jeff (Russell Crowe), his amazingly supportive widowed father Harry (Jack Thompson), and their lusty romantic foibles: Jeff meets and falls for Greg (John Polson), a sweet but closeted youth, and Harry meets Joyce (Deborah Kennedy), a pleasant but staunchly homophobic lady, recently widowed, who takes to Harry like white on rice. A third romance takes place in Harry's mind as he lingers over the loving memory of his mother and her 40-year relationship with the woman both called Aunt Mary.

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Scott Heim's
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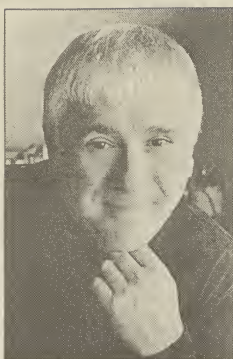
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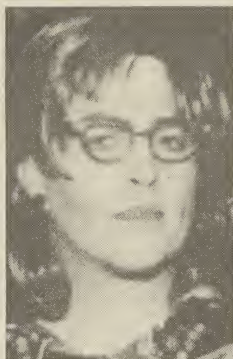
Marc Huestis



Liz Taylor



Donny Spoto



We think it's Pansy



We think it's Betty

by Otter Outrage

The Price of Fame: Oscar nominees **Deborah Hoffman** and **Frances Reid** were in LaLa land last week for the annual Academy Award's Luncheon, a special bash for nominees to meet each other, glamorize, and learn proper Oscar-night etiquette. Apparently someone showed videos of the kinds of acceptance speeches the Oscar people consider ideal and those that are frowned upon. A video of **Whoopi Goldberg** accepting an Oscar indicated proper deportment, while a video of someone bearing a striking resemblance to **Sally Fields** instructed nominees what not to do in an Oscar moment. At the luncheon, Frances got lucky and sat next to a cast member from **Woody Allen's Bullets Over Broadway**.

Deborah, however, was stuck with special effects people from **George Lucas' Industrial Light Magic**. There was a lot of talk about Marin. But the big question is, what will Deborah and Frances wear to the ceremony?

San Francisco filmmaker **Marc Huestis** recently celebrated his 40th birthday and ten years living with HIV. As fitting tribute to both his fourth decade and continued good health, he spent his Big Day doing what comes naturally to him: he worked on a new film. When finished, *Life Begins at 40/Waiting to Die* will be a "reality-based documentary," a series of interviews with people who, despite myriad obstacles and setbacks, have accepted the aging process with renewed enthusiasm for life. The film features chats with ordinary

types (like Otter) and prominent celebs like **Rosa von Praunheim**, **Barbara Hammer**, **Jennie Livingston**, **Jimmy Somerville** and the fabulous **Lulu**.

Huestis is perfect inspiration for his own film. Though he occasionally feels tired, the filmmaker says his health is fine and his "T-cells have never dropped below 600." "Somehow," he says with characteristically breathless amazement, "I've managed to make three films (*Chuck Solomon Coming of Age*, *Making Love*, *Sex Is*). He is living testimony to his latest film's thesis that queers are countering the reigning image of homosexual men as "dying, suffering and helpless."

T rue to form, Huestis, despite frigid winter temperatures, trekked 8000 miles last month to attend the Berlin Film Festival. In addition to interviewing people for his current film, he made the trip in order to drum up interest in a film he's producing called *Toilers and Wayfarers*, which was invited by **Mark Finch** late last year to screen at the 1995 San Francisco International Lesbian & Gay Film Festival. According to Huestis, there's a lot of interest in the film, which concerns three "outsiders," a German immigrant and two gay teenagers who set out across America in search of a place to belong.

connoisseur of many arts, Huestis remarked giddily on *Toiler's* manifold inducements: "There are cute blond boys in it who provide unbelievable classic butt shots," he shrieked over the phone. "But beyond that, the film is important because **Ken Froelich** has made something with a lot of heart, made it because he felt it, not just because he wanted to make a gay film."

Banned in the Philippines: the semi-salacious *Midnight Dancers*, inspired by the true story of three brothers working as "macho dancers" in a Manila gay bar, has been banned by the Philippine government presumably for its explicit content, according to Frameline's director of programming **Boone Nguyen**. One of the brothers ends up living with a drag queen, another has a wife and an older rich lover on the side, but what's really interesting is that the boys' mother wholeheartedly approves of their career. Fortunately for Nguyen, who booked the film for its U.S. premiere at the upcoming gay/les film festival, subtitled prints already exist outside the Philippines. Director **Mel Chionglo** is expected to attend

the festival screening.

In other queer film news, Out There has learned the name of one of the two opening night features at the upcoming les/gay filmfest. *The Incredibly True Adventure of Two Girls in Love*, a debut feature film by **Maria Maggenti**, concerns two teenage girls, one black, one white, who meet and fall in love during their senior year in high school. When the starstruck lovebirds decide to run away together, families intervene and a series of comic misadventures is set into motion. Newcomers **Laurel Holloman** and **Nicole Parker** star.

Finally, the long-awaited film version of **Paul Rudnick's Jeffrey** has found a distributor. Orion Pictures, which is also backing *Bar Girls* (opens March 31 at the Castro), will handle the domestic release of Rudnick's comedy about love in the age of AIDS. Look for it at a theatre near you in August.

The latest edition of **Betty and Pansy's Severe Queer Review of San Francisco** is chock-full of advice about sex clubs, cafes and other goings on in Faghdad by the Bay. Interesting tidbit in the section on publications: Betty's favorite columnist in *Bay Times* is **Nan Parks**, who "does outreach from the straight community." Now here's the dish: "Pansy loves Nan's hubby, **Doug** ... Pansy did him in Dolores Park before Nan began writing for *Bay Times*." Hope she doesn't find out.

Edelweiss, Edelweiss: If you succeeded in getting through *The Magic Mountain*, *The Transposed Heads*, and *Death in Venice*, you no doubt see megascibe **Thomas Mann** as a man of penetrating wisdom and transcendental calm. But, according to Nietzsche biographer **Ronald Hayman**, who's recently published a new biography of Mann, "the last great man of European letters" was hardly at peace with himself. His personal agony, which manifested itself in fits of convulsive sobbing and nausea, was largely the result of repressed homosexual desires, which, Hayman writes, were kept hidden from the public and spoken of only in his vast, rambling diaries. His marriage and family life (he sired six children, two of whom committed suicide) was jerryrigged to maintain a facade of bourgeois respectability and decency. Above all, what Mann apparently feared most was that the Nazis would read his diaries and use his confessions of bisexuality to destroy his reputation.

My Kingdom for a Tums: **Donald Spoto** has penned yet another dishy celebrity bio, this one on Hollywood superstar and fried chicken queen **Elizabeth Taylor**. In *Elizabeth Taylor: A Passion for Life* you'll learn more than you ever wanted to know about Liz, her family, about **Richard Burton** and all the torrid shenanigans that took place on the set of *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* But the best parts of the book are the intermittent gustatorial reports, like this one from Liz's childhood recorded by her mother: "It was fun for all of us to see the excitement on Elizabeth's face as she sat in a high chair at Antoine's, dining on Oysters Rockefeller and pompano baked in a paper bag - at 10 p.m." Can you imagine?

Plumbing Lessons: We love our transgender friends. They're living, breathing reminders of just how infinitely complex our world really is. Case in point: at the recent Outwrite conference in Boston, an international transgender celebrity turned heads when she announced to a roomful of participants on a gender panel that, "I am the only person in this room who needs both a prostate exam and a pap smear." Thanks for setting us, er, straight.

More Outtakes from Outwrite '95: Roving reporter and world-weary misanthrope **Brandon Judell** has informed Out There that *wilde* publisher **Scott O'Hara** was a big presence (no pun intended) at this year's writers' conference. At one point he organized a nude photo shoot consisting of "10 or 20 writers" that will be featured in the next issue of *wilde*. When we asked Brandon if he was included in the shoot, there was a long silence followed by a disconsolate "no." Don't feel so bad Brandon, life begins at 40.

Mixed Signals: You may remember several weeks back we reported on the handsome hung star of *Love! Valour! Compassion!* whose freely swinging penis is all the rage among New York theatergoers. Well, we're sorry to disappoint all you salivating queens who were hoping to hear stories of **Randy Becker** cavorting about gay sex clubs in a leather thong, but apparently the boy is straight. At least that's the impression we got from a recent pic taken of him at an opening night party for **Terrence McNally's** hit play to which he showed up not with a knight in shining armor but a wan wench named **Walesca**. Does our Gaydar need new batteries? ▼

"...a brilliant songwriter."
-Emily Saliers (*Indigo Girls*)

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'Martha & Ethel' Explores Nanny/Child Relations

Nannies and the People Who Love Them

by Cathay Che

A recent article in *The New York Times* found that, overwhelmingly, adult women raised by nannies expressed a strong love for their caretakers not reciprocated by the nannies themselves. It's just one of many surprising statistics that have begun surfacing since psychologists began exploring relationships between nannies and their charges. If at first you think the subject less than riveting, think again. Nannies and the children they care for provide an intriguing framework with which to examine issues of race, class and the broadening definition of "family."

Two women raised by nannies have produced a documentary, entitled *Martha & Ethel*, that begins to unravel this complex web of socio-economic and emotional ties. The film begins as a simple homage to nannies Martha, a German national who fled war-torn Germany after being stigmatized as a former employee of a Jewish home, and Ethel, an African American woman who migrated from the



Photo: Elmer Gantry

Hangin' In There: Supernannies Martha & Ethel.

South to live in New York City.

By working as nannies, both women managed to travel and escape the limited roles of wife, mother or teacher, which seemed mandatory for women in the '50s. But, ironically, both women were employed to absorb the pressures of family life for two privileged baby boomers who fulfilled their duty

to country, home and hearth by having no less than five children a piece.

Mrs. Johnstone, the socialite pianist and employer of Martha, talks about the need for help with the children in the face of all her charitable obligations. Her need for a nanny seems in keeping with the familiar tradition of the nanny, and in fact,

when the children were grown, Martha left her employment. Her adult children seem resentful of her and we are awkward about their adult relationship with and responsibilities to Martha.

Mrs. Ettinger, a former flight attendant and employer of Ethel, talks about being afraid and unsure about how to raise chil-

dren, and about how common it was for women of that time to have help if they could afford it. When Mrs. and Mr. Ettinger divorced, the children were sent to boarding schools, but Ethel remained with Mrs. Ettinger and they still live together to this day. The Ettingers seem to have a strong relationship with Ethel and view her as part of their family, and Ethel likewise.

Martha & Ethel works best as a provocative piece about how much women's roles have changed since the '50s. However, the film only scratches the surface of the issues raised. There's no doubt that this is an interesting film and subject matter, but unfortunately, *Martha & Ethel* degenerates into the sentimental voices of the filmmakers, who are only now beginning to realize the sacrifices and the tragedies of the nannies they continue to cling to with rose-colored memories and childish possessiveness. ▼

■ *Martha & Ethel* opens March 24 at the opera Plaza Cinema, 601 Van Ness Avenue.



Photo: Sarah Gilbert

Heads Up for Lava

The third annual LAVA Awards (Lesbians of Achievement, Vision and Action) dinner and awards ceremony will be held on Saturday, March 25 at the Grand Ballroom of the Hyatt Regency Embarcadero Hotel in San Francisco. Presented by Bay Area Career Women to benefit "A Fund of Our Own," the evening honors those leaders in our community who have enhanced the image, empowerment or understanding of lesbians. The event promises to be lots of fun and will include a sumptuous buffet dinner and, afterwards, dancing to the sounds of Orquestra Azucar y Crema

(Sugar and Cream).

The 1995 LAVA award winners are Roberta Achtenberg (for political activism); Maria Core (for the arts); Judy Dlugacz (for business and commerce); Tracy Gary (for philanthropic activism); Helen Vozenilek (for sports and athletics); and Doreena Wong (for community activism). Tickets to the 1995 LAVA Awards are \$80 per person and may be obtained by calling 495-5393. Photographed above, from left to right: Judy Dlugacz, Doreena Wong, Helen Vozenilek and Maria Cora. ▼

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Photo: Kent Taylor

City College Gives Good Guare Return to the Source

by Chad Jones

Any excuse to rhapsodize over John Guare's 1990 masterpiece *Six Degrees of Separation* is a good one, and soon the Bay Area will be bursting with excuses.

Guare's fact-based comedy/drama about a young gay man impersonating the son of Sidney Poitier in order to gain admittance to the lives of New York's upper crust originated at New York's Lincoln Center, spawned a national tour (which made a stop in San Francisco), inspired a beautiful 1993 film (written by Guare and directed by Australian Fred Schepisi), and has now reached the ranks of regional theatre.

As a result, productions of *Six Degrees* will soon begin popping up everywhere, and theater companies both amateur and professional will be in on the act, subjecting subscribers to a naked male hustler running around the stage, the wonders of a two-sided Kandinsky and the overall crystalline brilliance and genuinely satisfying entertainment offered by Guare's play.

The first local production of *Six Degrees* has surfaced at City College, beating Foster City's Hillbarn Theatre to the punch (their production opens April 1). The complex subtleties of Guare's rapturously exhilarating script might at first seem beyond student actors, but this is fortunately not the case at City College. This ambitious undertaking yields a strong, emotionally rich production worthy of its source. In fact, the City College *Six Degrees* is ultimately more satisfying than the wan touring production, which featured a depth-free central performance



Photo: Greg Murphy

Annella Keen and Shaka Taylor in the upcoming Hillbarn Theatre production of *Six Degrees of Separation* (begins April 1). City College's show is up through March 26.

from *That Girl* herself, Marlo Thomas.

Director Susan Jackson Collins has taken her inspiration from the original Lincoln Center production. To re-create the intimate, almost-in-the-round Vivian Beaumont Theatre, set and lighting designer Don Cate has closed off the Diego Rivera Theatre and placed the entire production, audience and all, on the stage. The stylish red-carpeted round platform set is almost an exact replica of the original. The cast members sit in the front row facing the stage when they're

not performing, and there are two elevated platforms on either side of the central living room that lend dimension to the proceedings and allow for movements that sustain the play's internal rhythms.

Convincing tribute

That student actors can convincingly re-create the fragile "ecosystem" of New York's money-encrusted Upper East Side is as much a tribute to the commitment and talent of the actors as to the strength of the text from which they're working.

Kathleen O'Hara and David Wolff as central characters Ouisa and Flan Kitteridge grasp the nuances of this wealthy couple, avoiding the stereotypes often associated with those whose apartments overlook Central Park. Guare won't allow Flan and Ouisa to be one-dimensional, and O'Hara and Wolff do his bidding with great aplomb.

O'Hara has the more difficult task of making the audience forget the definitive portrayal of Ouisa created last year by Stockard Channing in the film version. But she, nevertheless, makes Ouisa her own with elegance and quiet fascination. Her strongest connection with the character comes near the end of the play when she attempts to make sense of the way her life has been changed by falling under the spell of the mysterious impostor who's entered her life. "How do we fit what happened to us into life without turning it into an anecdote with no teeth and a punch line you'll mouth over and over for years to come?" Ouisa asks as she paces the floor like a caged animal. "We become these human jukeboxes spilling out these anecdotes. But it was an experience. How do we keep the experience?"

Notions of experience, connectedness and the small, everyday richness of life and its dramas are central to Guare's play, and director Collins, along with her able cast of 17, convey these feelings with enthusiasm and honesty. This is undoubtedly the most uplifting tragedy in town. ▼

■ *Six Degrees of Separation* continues at City College's Diego Rivera Theatre through March 26. Call 239-3100 for information.

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Photo: Harold Weiss

Louise Chegwidden, Lluís Valls and Paul Sulzmann in *Betrayal*.

Harold Pinter's 'Betrayal' Skillful Rendering

by Chad Jones

Harold Pinter's 1978 infidelity drama *Betrayal*, currently on the boards at the New Conservatory Theatre, is an earnest exercise in subtext. Whereas *Six Degrees of Separation*, which I also saw this weekend, is broadly entertaining and intellectually stimulating at any given moment—read: very American—Pinter makes his audience work to understand his characters and the meaning of their cryptic conversations, which seem to be about ordinary things but are actually fraught with undercurrents of passion, anxiety and torment—read: very British.

Pinter begins his challenge by structuring the play in reverse order. When we meet Emma and Jerry, their seven-year affair has been over for two years. As the

play's nine scenes progress, Pinter works back to the moment when Jerry approaches Emma, his best friend's wife, and instigates an illicit affair. The kernels of knowledge we gain along the way help explain who these "ordinary" people are and how their seemingly normal lives eventually give way to the unrest and deception.

Director Paul Sulzmann, who also plays Jerry, and producer Louise Chegwidden, who also appears as Emma, have crafted a simple, intricately detailed production that is up to the challenge of Pinter. Sulzmann, Chegwidden and Lluís Valls (as the cuckolded husband) even sport convincing British accents, which is no mean feat.

At 90 minutes (without intermission), *Betrayal* is a compelling drama, but the nine scene changes become tiresome

Continued on page 33

Ailey

Continued from cover

The Ailey company's eight-performance run at Zellerbach Hall included both Bay Area premieres (current Ailey artistic director Judith Jamison's *Hymn*, for example, with text by Anna Devereau Smith; and *Scissors Paper Stone*, a 1994 romp created for the Ailey dancers by ODC/San Francisco's Brenda Way), as well as nuggets that date back to the company's earliest days (among them Ailey's 1960 *Revelations*, an internationally known classic often called the troupe's "signature" piece).

The company's dancers, however, in their penultimate performance on Saturday night, proved themselves somewhat less at home in the traditional Ailey repertory than one might have expected.

'Carmina Burana'

John Butler's *Carmina Burana*, for example, originally staged for the Ailey company in 1959, shows both the significant influence on Butler of Martha Graham (he joined Graham's company in the '40s) and the kind of melodramatic overreach that is sometimes characteristic of Ailey's style.

The piece, danced to Carl Orff's 1937 choral and orchestral composition of the same name, takes its dramatic cues from the 13th century Latin texts on which Orff's work is based. These secular songs and poems, devoted to extolling the virtues of women, wine, and music, frame Butler's choreographic recreation of the romantic conflicts, bacchanalian excesses, and gloomy musings on fate that were evidently much on the minds of the ex-monastery students who described them 700 years ago.

The opening imagery, then, of cowed dancers in solemn procession, conjures the formal, monastic life that the rest of



Photo: Don Middleton

Revelations

Carmina reacts against. At the end of that prologue, Butler has two male/female couples emerge from the group; they strip off their robes as the music changes and the stage empties. Their reappearance throughout the ballet, in various costumes and moods, provides an organizing theme that is sometimes trite and sometimes ravishingly explicated.

In its best moments, *Carmina* lets the finest of the Ailey dancers show off their stamina, technique, and — particularly in the case of Elizabeth Roxas, whose extensions go from here to next Tuesday — beauty of line. But in those moments that aren't the best, and there are too many of them, *Carmina* turns oddly careless and unintentionally campy. In a piece that demands

constant *arabesque* and attitude turns (requiring superb muscular control and one-legged balance), there was more than a little struggling in the *corps* to stay vertical.

Similarly, the coy glances, mimed rejections, and other dramatic gestures with which *Carmina* is punctuated quickly grow pale. They are, of course, a vestige of a time when bringing emotion into dance as an

abstraction — if that's not a self-canceling phrase — was as *avant* as the *garde* could get.

And then there are the costumes. For most of the large middle section, the dancers are attired in yellow outfits — wide, rope-like collars for the men and miniskirts for the women — that look like the sort of clothing worn by the benevolent yet quirky humanoids that keep meeting up with the "away" teams on *Star Trek*.

But *Carmina* has something great going for it — a formal, internal vocabulary that is smartly exploited in the nearly hour-long ballet and a well-developed intellectual structure. Such elements, so often missing or neglected in "modern" dance, are part of what make the Ailey company's older repertory genuinely classic.

'Revelations'

That classicism was evident as well in *Revelations*, Ailey's homage to "black" church and to the spirit behind what used to be called "Negro spirituals." Ailey infused *Revelations* with quotes from the lives of African-American folks he knew (a chorus of sharply dressed "church ladies" steps out with fans held ready against the heat) and with elements of "black dance," to use an ambiguous term. There's just a touch of Afro-Caribbean movement, for example, in the stuttering upper-body contractions that Ailey uses in *Revelations*; and the tall, beribboned poles that two dancers carry in procession bring a ritualistic, Haitian feel to one section.

But *Revelations* is not just a visual knockout; it is dignified, even stately at its heart. On the most obvious level, of course, the dance "sings of woe triumphantly" (to paraphrase the program notes). But imagine Ailey making this piece at a time when his dancers couldn't safely tour the country, when African-American bodies were widely considered inappropriate for classical Western dance, and when Ailey's goal of an integrated company was provoking real controversies.

'Scissors Paper Stone'

Sandwiched between these two 35-year-old works was *Scissors Paper Stone*, an endearing and enigmatic trio set on the company last year by local choreographer Brenda Way.

The piece begins with a voiceover (it's the best use of comic narration in dance since David Gordon's *Murder*) and continues with a zany, never entirely funny free-for-all of partner switching and mad dashes around the perimeter of the stage. Michael Thomas does a magnificent series of rapid spins, his clenched fists flailing around his head like mosquitoes, and the piece ends literally in a pileup, with the flashing red of an offstage ambulance light painting one dancer's cheek.

Judging from the blended repertory on its Northern California tour, the Ailey company seems to be insisting, in its 37th year, on a philosophy of "in with the old and in with the new." Sounds like a recipe for success. ▼



Photo: Wynn Berry

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Continued from page 32

and the play risks losing its focus when it switches from solid drama to the unnecessary redressing of its set every 10 minutes. Carping aside, though, Sulzman, Chegwidan and Valls have triumphed. The simple joy

of watching three intelligent actors skillfully interpret the work of a major modern playwright is enough to make this *Betrayal* an infidel's delight. ▼

■ *Betrayal* continues at the New Conservatory Theatre through April 8. Call 861-8972 for information.

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Bedknobs and Baseballs

**Mysterious Skin by
Scott Heim; HarperCollins, \$20**

by Roberto Friedman

This first novel by emerging writer Scott Heim begins as a coming-of-age story for Kansas teens, and ends with revelations of child molestation, hustling and male rape. It's a most unusual debut from a young author with an already distinctive voice.

Most of *Mysterious Skin* is told in alternating first person from the points of view of Brian Lackey and Neil McCormick, adolescents growing up in small Kansas towns. There are sections narrated by minor characters as well, but the story belongs to Brian and Neil. They are different kids with diverging futures, but they share a life-shaping past experience: both were sexually abused by the coach of their Little League baseball team.

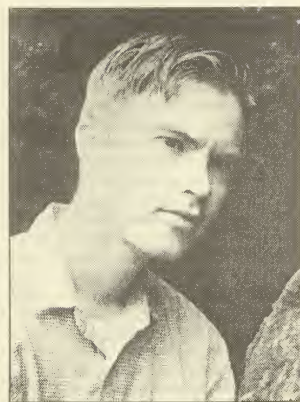
Heim explores this theme of adult sexual desires impinging on adolescent innocence skillfully, playing out its variations: Brian, for example, represses the episode with Coach, pushes it deep into his subconscious, where it bears strange fruit. Neil, on the other hand, exults in his initiation, and lets it determine the tenor of his rebellious, sexually charged life.

Writing from a teenager's perspective is always dicey: there's the chance the author will bring too much adult hindsight to the scene or, worse, condescend. But Heim seems close enough to his characters to pull it off. Here's Neil's first impression of his eventual seducer: "Coach squinted at the new troupe of Panthers, searching for defects. His gaze paused on me. Desire sledgehammered my body, a sensation I still wasn't sure I had a name for. If I saw Coach now, say across a crowded bar, that feeling would translate to something like 'I want to fuck him.' Back then, I wasn't sure

what to do with my emotion. It felt like a gift I had to open in front of a crowd."

Little League life and baseball culture run through this book like a cultural memory. The scene in which Coach seduces and has his star player on a kitchen floor crunchy with sugary breakfast cereal is vivid and memorable. Readers who don't think they have sports uniform fetishes or jock fantasies may learn otherwise.

Not everything in the novel pays off in home runs. Often the narrating voices are not differentiated enough from each other; there are passages which sag and offer only mundanity. By book's end, Heim has Neil move to New York: he's just another hustler at Rounds, moving in late '90s circles where "KS no longer meant the abbreviation for Kansas." But along the way, *Mysterious Skin* has been a good ball game, and its real center remains in the wheat fields and baseball diamonds of the Great Plains. ▼



Scott Heim

Family Affair

**Safe As Houses
by Alex Jeffers; Faber
and Faber, \$24.95**

by Roberto Friedman

In an America where reactionary voices which want to limit the definition of family to very narrow, heterosexual standards prevail, Alex Jeffers' first novel, *Safe As Houses*, is a beautiful work of gay wisdom. The book is in all ways a family novel, even if the family in this case consists of narrator Allen Pasztory and his lover Jeremy, Jeremy's son

Toby, and Allen's gay-awakening nephew Kit. The circle widens to include Toby's mother Ruth and her lover Candace, and Allen's birth family, all of whom accommodate themselves, in varying degrees, to his atypical domestic life.

Jeffers has a true novelist's way with the material, which unfolds slowly and with empathy all around. The author is the grandson of the poet Robinson Jeffers, and his prose has the close attention to language, as well as the eye for image, that characterize poetry. His themes are those of nurturing, gay father-

ing and domestic bliss; above all, Allen is a protagonist who wants a tidy nest, and he wants his fellow roosters happy and preening.

Despite the fact that its central character is living with AIDS, *Safe As Houses* avoids hard edges and unpleasant truths, living up to its title. It's almost as if Jeffers wanted to create a fable of gay family life which, despite its awareness of the plague, emphasizes scenes of contentment, decency and everyday concerns. At times this authorial bent can seem counter to the conventions of dramatic interest: late in the novel, for

example, Allen has an extramarital affair, and Jeffers has him confessing his dalliance to Jeremy in a scene the author does not show. He avoids confrontations and mere human ugliness: if they crop up in the Pasztory-Kent household, they're mostly off-stage.

The novel's strength is in its depictions of male tenderness, not only between lovers, but even more prominently between gay fathers and their sons. Toby, offspring of a Santa Cruz lesbian and two superdads, is just too cool, the type of kid who (although straight) will wear his dad's old "Too Many Men, Too Little Time" T-shirt. After Allen's nephew Kit joins the home team, the adorableness quotient of the boys goes up considerably. Jeffers can actually pull off a scene in which Toby and Allen wrestle affectionately, and then Allen assures Kit that the boner he's sprung while watching is nothing to be ashamed of. Wow, this is one



liberated household.

Allen's own parents are deaf, Hungarian immigrants—already two steps away from the American mainstream. Jeffers nicely develops his characters' understanding of what it feels like to be "other"; perhaps it explains as well their desire for safe harbor. ▼

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'Quartier Mozart': Fast-Paced Sex Farce

The Living Room Festival and California Newsreel present a gender bending feature film from Cameroon. Hosted by local performance artists Joan Jett Blakk and Brian Freeman, *Quartier Mozart* airs Friday, March 24 on KQED-TV channel 9 at 11 p.m.

Winner of the Prix Afrique en Creation at the 1992 Cannes Film Festival, *Quartier Mozart* is a delightful comedy by director Jean-Pierre Bekolo that follows the events that unfold in a working-class neighborhood over a 48-hour period. The story concerns a young woman (Queen of the Hood) who is helped by a local sorceress (Mama Thekla) to enter the body of a handsome young man (My Guy) so she can experience for herself the sexual politics of the quarter. My Guy begins pursuing the sultry Samedi, daughter of the feared police chief (Mad Dog), who is having marital problems of his own. Added to that, the sorceress is disguised as Panka, a comic figure from Cameroonian folklore who



Queen of the Hood
in *Quartier Mozart*.

can make a man's penis disappear by shaking his hand. Comic misadventure, witchcraft and ancient wisdom garnish this amusing fast-paced sex farce.

Bekolo is part of the African New Wave in cinema. He began his career working in television and music videos. ▼

The Dirt on DeGeneres

by K.T. Drasky

Ellen DeGeneres
Up Close: The
Unauthorized Biography
by Kathy Tracy and
Jeff Rovin; New York
Pocket Books, \$5.99

With the debut of her sitcom *These Friends of Mine* (now called *Ellen*) last year, Ellen DeGeneres has skyrocketed from little-known stand-up comic to household-name status alongside Roseanne, Jerry Seinfeld and Tim Allen.

Along with this overnight rise to fame, has come the usual prodding and probing into the star's personal life and the inevitable unauthorized biography that promises to deliver all the goods.

Ellen DeGeneres Up Close chronicles the 37-year-old comedian's long road to superstardom in typical unauthorized biography fashion. The book consists of interviews with estranged family members, high school chums and industry types who chose to remain "anonymous."

Since DeGeneres refused to be interviewed for the book, the authors rely heavily on previously published profiles of the star from *The New York Times*, *National Enquirer* and elsewhere to paint a decidedly flattering portrait of an All-

American girl with a slightly "controversial" lifestyle.

Observing that DeGeneres hasn't had a boyfriend since high school, the authors pose the question, "Was the comedienne so devastated by that break-up that she's been unable to date a man since, or might she simply be pursuing other interests?" The verdict is the latter.

After a brief glimpse of the star's childhood in New Orleans and East Texas, where DeGeneres is remembered fondly as being "bright and funny," she returned to New Orleans and a series of odd jobs. It was during these years, according to her biographers, that she began frequenting gay bars and made the statement that she "found the company of women stimulating, deep and honest." Moving in with a female "roommate" and encouraged by the "liberal environment of New Orleans," DeGeneres found herself at ease in her "new lifestyle." That established, it was time to get serious about earning a living.

Outed by the 'Enquirer'

She was discovered while eating a Whopper at a French Quarter fundraiser in the early '80s. Gigs in local coffee houses followed. It was the death of her roommate (now referred to as her "lover"), however, that compelled DeGeneres to bring herself out of a severe depression

by writing the comedy routine, "A Phone Call to God," which she took on the road. Appearances on cable specials and being named Showtime's "Funniest Person in America" landed her a spot on the *Tonight Show*. Eventually she moved to Los Angeles, but it would take another decade of stand-up comedy routines and bit parts on short-lived sitcoms before she would become a star.

DeGeneres gave close to 200 interviews four weeks prior to the debut of *Ellen*. Her natural sense of humor and cute personality made great copy, especially when compared with some of her notorious colleagues. But in many of these interviews, questions surfaced about her personal life that eventually forced her to state unequivocally, "My private life is an area I choose to keep private." Her statement set the stage for increased speculation and an "outing" in the *National Enquirer*.

To her credit, DeGeneres does not deny the rumors, and as the second season of *Ellen* draws to a close and its star prepares for a role in the ironically titled Disney film *Mr. Wrong*, it's obvious that rumors have not hurt her career. In fact, Americans seem to crave "unconventional" off-camera behavior from sitcom stars. Roseanne's multiple personalities, Seinfeld's romance with a woman half his age, and

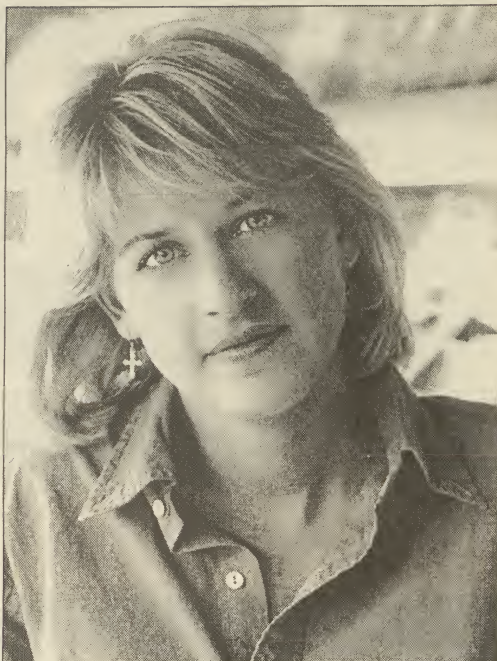


Photo: Pam Seidelmann

Ellen DeGeneres

Allen's run-in with the law only seem to make these prime time clowns all the more lovable. But can mainstream America accept a prime time sensation

who's rumored to be homosexual? *Ellen DeGeneres Up Close*, as unauthorized as it may be, provides plenty of reasons to think so. ▼

'Muscle'

Continued from cover

"A woman is a woman, no matter who she sleeps with," Pietz said in a recent phone interview from Los Angeles. "I'm just lucky enough to play someone who has strong opinions and needs to express them."

A graduate of Chicago's De Paul University, the 26-year-old actress said her comfort with the role reflects a growing acceptance of gays and lesbians in society at large. "Women of my generation are experimenting a lot with their sexuality, and they aren't shy to discover what they want in life. I might even go so far as to say it's trendy to be a lesbian."

TV may be friendly to queers right now, but not *all* queers. When Pietz first stepped into Bronwyn's shows, the show's producers told her that the mannerisms she imposed on her character were "too masculine." In fact, she kept getting director's notes that said things like, "don't sit quite as butch," and "don't push it, play it straight."

Muscle creator Rob LaZebnick (one of the show's three producers) denies any conscious effort on his part to "de-dyke" Bronwyn, so to speak, but admits that he didn't want to use a "butcher" stereotype. "We wanted to portray a character who is very much assimilated in society; another member of the gym, for whom her sexuality is just a part of her life," he said. "We didn't want it to dominate her character."

Akin to 'Soap'

Yet, it is precisely Bronwyn's preference that drives her plotline. Fearing that revelations about her private life might damage her career,

Bronwyn has tried to keep her sexuality somewhat secret. But after a sleazy male gymmate blackmails and outs her, Bronwyn publicly acknowledges her sexuality on the air, only when she does her ratings unexpectedly skyrocket, so dramatically in fact that her producers begin exploiting her gayness to increase viewership.

If all this Sturm und Drang sounds vaguely reminiscent of the classic '70s serial *Soap*, it's no coincidence. Tony Thomas and Paul Junger Witt (who both helped create *Soap*) are co-producers of *Muscle*. And, as in *Soap*, *Muscle* is driven as much by plot gags as it is by a cast of characters who read like a pictorial of pop culture. Aside from Pietz's "chic" lesbian, there's the sleazy Wall Street type who outs her; a media-savvy defense attorney—eerily akin to Johnnie Cochran; and the attorney's client, a carnivorous serial killer—think Anthony Hopkins in *The Silence of the Lambs*.

There's also a steroid-shooting bodybuilder and the gym's young, homicidal widow-owner, who falls head-over-heels for her hunky stepson.

It's no small irony that Bronwyn's sexual preference pales next to her fellow cast members' more sordid "quirks." Still, there's no attempt to downplay her strident sexual aggressiveness. When Bronwyn isn't eye-balling other women at the gym, she's joking about her libido to a friend. Of course, that's as far as it goes. Like most lesbian characters on TV, her sex life exists in word only.

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So, is an onscreen lesbian

Continued on page 46

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Dick Kramer and the Contra Costa Chorale

Catching Up With Dick Kramer Onward and Upward

by Paul Bollwinkler

It's been ten years since choir director Richard Kramer moved from the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus to the Contra Costa Chorale, but even now there's pride in his voice when he talks about the transition. While the arts may be more open to gays than other professions, Kramer, who also teaches singing at Contra Costa College, knows the change could have been difficult.

"They hired me on the basis of the first recording made by the gay men's chorus," Kramer said in a recent interview. "It was passed around to their board and they hired me. The chorale is really gay friendly."

Affiliated with Contra Costa College and funded by East Bay businesses, the Contra Costa Chorale is a 29-year-old, 75-member, mixed-sex chorus based in Richmond. Kramer, who is 65, notes that about half the men, and some of the women are gay but, except for Kramer's openness, the group isn't gay-identified.

The Contra Costa chorale prepares three concerts per year, each performed twice, once at the First Unitarian Church in Kensington and then at the Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church. This weekend, the Chorale will perform works by Virgil Thompson, Brahms and Haydn, including Haydn's "Seven Last Words of Christ." (Kramer is currently looking for male singers for future works and encourages anyone interested in singing to contact the chorus.)

Kramer's work with San Francisco's gay chorus may be a distant memory, but his role as the group's first conductor was integral in establishing its distinguished musical reputation.

"The chorus was John Simms' idea," said Kramer. "He had started the first gay band in the country for the 1978 gay pride day. Within two months, people were saying to him, 'let's start a chorus.' One hundred

men turned out for the first rehearsal and John asked me to lead them. In November [of 1978], John named me the first permanent conductor.

"The night Harvey Milk and George Moscone were shot was the night I joined the chorus and at that point I really came out. I knew I was going to be the conductor of the Gay Men's Chorus — an out front, well known person — and the anger in me told me there was no more hiding."

Recalls the good times

Despite starting the chorus at such a tumultuous time, Kramer remembers those years as exciting and upbeat. "It was a happy time. It was all built upon love, and we were working hard to make good music. And I was very qualified to teach them how to do that. My whole life had been spent directing choral music and teaching people how to sing."

The fledgling San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus hit the big time after its nine-city 1981 tour. The group, which had 145 members at the time, received rave reviews and inspired other cities to start their own gay choruses. Today, there are so many that an umbrella organization was created to track their comings and goings. Kramer credits the recent resurgence of interest in choral singing to the gay movement of the late '70s.

"The tradition of men's choruses comes out of European singing," Kramer said. "In this country, men's choruses caught on in the '20s and '30s and then faded out until the gay movement came along. The gay chorus movement stimulated music performed by and written for the male chorus."

Kramer has no regrets about his departure from the Gay Men's Chorus. His reasons are many and complex, but one thing that played a part in his decision was the tragedy of AIDS, which has taken the lives of so many talented singers and the founder of the chorus itself, John Simms, that it pains Kramer deeply. "Their pro-

grams list over a hundred men who have passed away, mostly from AIDS," Kramer said with palpable sadness.

But Kramer isn't the type to drown in sorrow. He swims regularly, gives private voice lessons, and has developed an interest in the occult. He also practices Polarity Therapy, which he believes is an innovative tool for singers.

"Polarity is finding points in the body with your thumb and finger," Kramer said, "two at a time, and creating a polarity between those two points. If it's done in specific places or on certain meridians on the body it releases tensions or unconscious holdings."

Breathing is everything

"Learning to sing has two aspects," Kramer reminds. "One is breathing, and polarity work can free breathing. People unconsciously hold their breath. We all have tensions in our bodies and if we can release those tensions, we can release the breathing. As far as learning to carry a tune or find a pitch, that simply takes time. Anyone can learn to do it."

Kramer came to San Francisco in 1968 as "a long-haired hippy" who landed in the Haight. He now lives in the East Bay, away from the San Francisco gay community. His smooth transition to a non-gay working environment — all the while being an "out" gay man — is, for him, refreshing.

"I enjoy teaching. I'm teaching gospel music right now because I have a lot of black students. Contra Costa College is very racially mixed and I love it there. Though I could retire, I don't want to. My horoscope and palm readings all say I'm gonna work another ten years. ▼

■ The Contra Costa Chorale performs Saturday, March 25, in Lafayette and Sunday, March 26 in Kensington. For information, call 1-510-527-2026.

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Keeping It Together

Blomstedt Returns to the Podium

by Philip Campbell

After a three-month hiatus, Herbert Blomstedt returned to the podium at Davies Symphony Hall last week to demonstrate what he does best and underscore what we can expect will be the new style of Conductor-Designate Michael Tilson Thomas.

In a series of three concert programs, Blomstedt has proved again his mastery of the central European and Scandinavian repertoire. His most recent outing (to be repeated Friday and Saturday) also serves as final dress rehearsals for the orchestra's latest London/Decca recordings.

Where Tilson Thomas promises to depart from the conventional wisdom of marketing department honchos and conservative subscribers (he's planned at least one American work on each of his programs), Blomstedt continues to offer carefully molded, if unexceptional performances of safe, market-tested fare.

Given his lame duck status, there is little chance of any 11th hour surprises from Blomstedt, whose greatest legacy with the San Francisco Symphony remains the fine library of recordings that has earned him and the orchestra international fame.

We will be sorry to see Blomstedt go. His success with the Sibelius and Nielsen recordings, and unanticipated good results with Hindemith and Mahler, remain fond memories and, thankfully, have been committed to disc. Michael Tilson Thomas will bound to center stage with a more youthful, perhaps freewheeling, posture, but he will be hard pressed to surpass Blomstedt's clearheaded grasp of such works as Bruckner's long-winded masterpieces or Beethoven's symphonies.

The 1994-95 season has spotlighted most notably our veteran conductor's special affinity for the music of Richard Strauss. From the impish wit of *Till Eulenspiegel's Merry Pranks* to the more profound *Death and Transfiguration* or *Also Sprach Zarathustra*, he charts a steady course, avoiding dangerous brushes with vulgarity and reveling in rich sonorities and startling harmonies.

Of course, his interpretations are not always matched by the players. The San Francisco strings remain obstinately thin, despite the expensive and much discussed acoustic adjustments at Davies. And certain horn players continue to appear either bored or uninvolved. Will Tilson Thomas spot these problems and take immediate action? Can he reposition tenured performers?

These are the difficulties of building a crack ensemble that Blomstedt can now forget. His future position as conductor emeritus should assure affectionate response from his colleagues. Tilson Thomas will get the best behavior from the musicians (as he did in his recent guest appearances), as they no doubt know they are dealing with a real star.

Sibelius and Strauss

For now, subscribers and drop-in patrons may rest

assured: the remaining season looks very good. Bruckner's massive Symphony No. 8 and Beethoven's *Missa Solemnis*, just in time for Easter, are Blomstedt's stock in trade and there is no reason to expect anything less than solid, inspirational renditions.

This week's offerings, the Sibelius Symphony No. 6 and Richard Strauss' tone poem *Also Sprach Zarathustra*, favorably impressed, give or take a few minor caveats; no doubt the rough edges will be evened out in time for recording sessions. Nielsen's *Little Suite* makes a charming curtain raiser. Michael Tilson Thomas has scheduled concerts that are unlikely to scare the horses but which seem positively radical compared to Blomstedt's sanguine acceptance of marketing profiles. All the same, only the hardest heart wouldn't melt at

the opening bars of the outgoing leader's steady traversal of Strauss' *Zarathustra* — you know, the one Kubrick used for *2001: A Space Odyssey*.

Crass move to appease the masses? Maybe, but it sold seats in a season that has been running in the red, and that is all to the good. Marketing ploys aside, patrons will want to stop by and hear Blomstedt's final concerts, if for no other reason than to express approval of his artistry and admit that he deserves better than the disdainful dismissal given Edo de Waart in his final days with the SF Symphony.

His sin, apparently, was not having the same star appeal of Leonard Bernstein. Blomstedt has his own appeal, dry though it may be. His concerts have rarely been anything less than satisfying, and there have even been a few revelations.

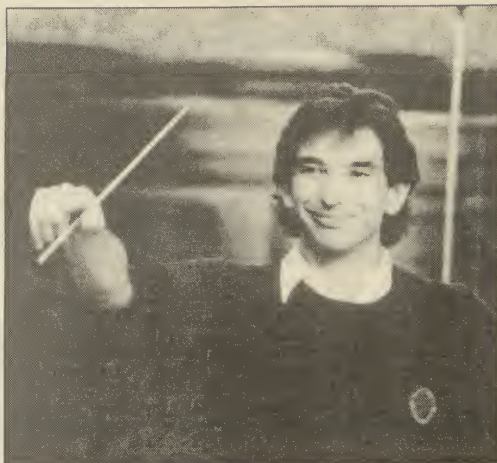


Photo: Jeremy Siegal

Michael Tilson Thomas

Blomstedt has been a steady, firm, albeit predictable, leader. But what he's lacked in radical programming, he's more than made up for in consistency and a dogged determination to maintain the

Symphony's high profile. Say what you may about him, but he's kept things together. It may sound like faint praise, but any director of a major orchestra needs the sanity of just such a musician. ▼

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Odyssey

Continued from cover

As simple and fun as this synopsis makes the film sound, it's hard to believe the long, rocky road *The Sum of Us* has traveled to reach the silver screen. Without the undying dedication of producer and co-director Kevin Dowling, it never could have happened. The B.A.R. recently spoke with Dowling via phone from Philadelphia, where he was attending a benefit opening of the film for an AIDS service group called Action AIDS.

A straight man somewhere in his late thirties, Dowling says he came across the play when he was looking for a new project. "I had been looking for a stage project and was not very successful, so I was home in a great state of depression," he explained. "I was flipping channels on the TV, and then I saw Dorothy Lyman, the actress, saying that she had found this first play by one of the screenwriters of the movie *Breaker Morant* (gay writer David Stevens) that she was going to do as a workshop. As she talked about it, my ears just turned into an antenna."

After reading the play, Dowling immediately secured both the stage and film rights. The first step, then, was to do the play.

Wary and reluctant

"We made all kinds of rounds," Dowling remembered.

"We went to the non-profit theatres out of town and in New York. This was 1988, and these theatres were very wary and reluctant because this is a gay love story and it's set in Australia. Those few who didn't have trouble with the love story wanted the setting moved to America, but I absolutely refused to do that."

At last the famed Williamstown Theatre Festival in Massachusetts agreed to do the play in its 1989 summer season. Dowling cast a little-known actor, Tony Goldwyn, in the part of Jeff. Even a successful run in Williamstown does not guarantee a New York production, so after its initial premiere, Dowling continued to shop the play around the Big Apple. Meanwhile, Goldwyn was filming *Ghost* and becoming a film star.

When Dowling finally decided to produce the play himself, he cast Goldwyn again. When the play opened in New York in 1990, it was a big hit, largely due to Goldwyn. In fact it played for a year in Manhattan, and has subsequently been produced all over the country, including, Dowling noted with great pride, at a high school in conservative North Dakota.

One would think that after such a stunning New York debut, every producer and studio in Hollywood would be lining up to make the film. But even though Dowling met with dozens of people, nothing panned out. This time around the complaint wasn't so much about gay content but the Australian setting.



Russell Crowe and John Polson in *The Sum of Us*.

Photo: Ehlers Sinn

Major boon

Eventually, Dowling secured the funds to make the film and, with the help of co-director/cinematographer Geoff Burton, set to work. Casting Australian icon Jack Thompson as Harry proved a major boon for the film. *The Sum of Us* played for six months in Australia, in big cities and in the suburbs. "One of the most successful runs," Dowling reported, "was in a small working-class suburb of Sydney

called Parramata, where there had been many gay bashings. Whole families in the audience were laughing and crying. It was very moving."

Transforming *The Sum of Us* from play to film was not difficult for Dowling. The first time he read the play, he saw it in cinematic terms. The film moves the setting from Melbourne to Sydney, which, in Dowling's view, has the kind of realistic working-class neighborhoods

the story needs. He made Harry a ferry boat captain, and ironically, the house used in the film is owned by an 86-year-old woman whose late husband was the captain of a ferry boat.

Dowling also wanted to expand the characters of Greg and Joyce. In the play, the basic story is the relationship between father and son, but because film can afford almost unlimited opportunities to develop characters and show the intimate details of their worlds, Dowling knew he could solidify both sets of romances by creating richer lives for Greg and Joyce.

"I wanted to see Greg's life with his family and so on," said Dowling. "And I wanted to really see Joyce. The character represents some pretty negative things, homophobia in particular. We gave her an argument in the film that she doesn't have in the play."

The absence of negative feedback about the film's homosexual theme is enough to make Dowling wonder whether or not *The Sum of Us* is a sort of "chart of the total decline of homophobia." The producer/director emphasizes that "in 1989, when I was hawking the idea and showing the stage play, the real problem was the gay love story. In 1992, it was the Australia story. It doesn't show miraculous progress, but it does show some." ▼

■ *The Sum of Us continues at the Castro Theatre through March 27.*

FILM

Homo Box Office

by Cathay Che

The Oscars will dominate movie chatter this week even though they promise to be a crashing bore. Aren't people from the same four movies nominated for simply everything? Instead of participating in less than compelling speculation, I'd like to announce the winners of the first annual "Cathay Che Queer Major Motion Picture Awards," or CCQMMPA for short.

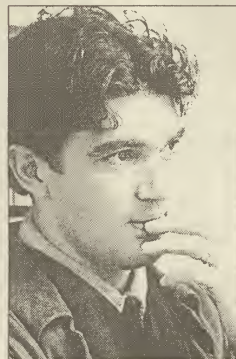
Are you excited? I am. Drumroll please ... The categories are:

Best Totally Harmless Fag Next Door: Albert Finney in *A Man of No Importance*.

Best Non-Sexual "Eunuch" Lesbian: Whoopi Goldberg in *Boys On the Side*.



Albert Finney in *A Man of No Importance*.



Antonio Banderas

Best Drag/TV/TG/TS Role Not In A Musical: Jay Leno in drag as Alice in *The Brady Bunch Movie* (just kidding). Really, Jesse Borega in *I Like It Like That*.

Best Incidental Lesbian Sex Scenes: Roman Polanski's *Bitter Moon*.

Best Animated Musical Drag Performance: Timon in *The Lion King*.

Best Unconscious Lipstick Lesbians: Kristy Swanson and Jennifer Connelly in *Higher Learning* tied with Jane March and Lesley Ann Warren in *Color of Night*.

Best Naked Butt Action: Jason Scott Lee and the entire cast of *Rapa Nui*.

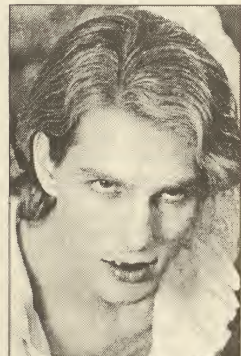
Best Queer Film That Wasn't: A tie between *Junior* and *Interview With A Vampire*.

Best Costumes & Soundtrack But The Worst Choreography - Ever: *The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert*.

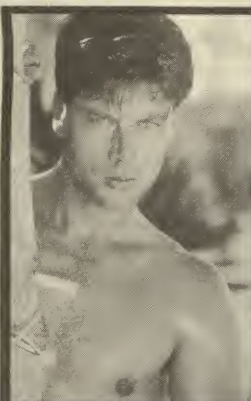
Best Dyke & Fag Buddy Movie: Sandy Bullock and Keanu Reeves in *Speed* (something for us both to look at!)

Best Queer Horror Flick: *Chicken Hawk*, a documentary about NAMBLA.

Special Lifetime Achievement Award For An Actor Who Has Made A Career Out of Playing Gay But Isn't: Antonio Banderas.



Tom Cruise in *Interview With The Vampire*.



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INTERVIEW



Patrick Fitzgerald (left) and Julian Swale of Kitchens of Distinction.

Patrick Fitzgerald of Kitchens of Distinction Stepping Out of the Clouds

by W.A. Hitchell

Nothing to hide/So I sing it too loud," sings Kitchens of Distinction vocalist Patrick Fitzgerald on the band's latest album *Cowboys and Aliens* (A&M Records).

More than a lyric, the line neatly sums up Fitzgerald's entire approach to music. As an openly gay man, when Fitzgerald writes lyrics, he naturally winds up with gay lyrics. That's not about making a statement, he insists. It's about being honest.

"What I'm trying to do as an artist is be as much myself as possible, and if I leave any of that hidden, then I'm lying, and that is tantamount to bad art, and that's unforgivable," he says.

While rockers like Michael Stipe and Bob Mould make headlines dancing defensively around their sexuality, Fitzgerald is renowned for filling his music with images of gay love and lust. For six years, the British trio's music has tackled issues of sexuality, relationships, intolerance and violence in intimate and bold terms. *Cowboys and Aliens* is no exception.

"What's similar is the amount of reflection and still the pursuit of truth that Kitchens is all about," says Fitzgerald, comparing the new album to the previous three releases. "What's different is that the landscape has changed, and it's far more aggressive and less ethereal. It's like we've stepped out of the clouds and stepped onto the street."

Kitchens of Distinction recorded *Cowboys and Aliens* in Scotland, as far away as possible from studio producers. The result is a style closer to the band's lush-but-gritty live sound, with extra effects stripped back to a minimum. The basic arrangements on the album push Fitzgerald's melancholy voice to the foreground; if

the lyrics are less overtly political than previous efforts, they still contain the vocalist's personal musings, which demand close listening.

And the straightforward sexuality is still present, in typically unabashed form. In particular, Fitzgerald describes the track "Come On Now" as a homoerotic poem, the most obviously gay-inspired song on the album, complete with a tremendously emotional orchestral crescendo and lyrics like "He dresses my lips with angel's kisses/under lemon moons and ice cube licks."

Despite his direct approach to songwriting, Fitzgerald does not want his sexuality to define him, or the group: Kitchens of Distinction is not a gay band, per se, and their music is not gay music.

"I don't like being pigeonholed," he says passionately. "The great problem with being an oppressed minority is that you are forced into defining yourself as such within society. I don't see myself as a gay artist. I see myself as an artist who is gay, among other things."

Besides, Fitzgerald maintains, he is only one member of Kitchens of Distinction. "What we do is the conjunction of three men, one of whom happens to be gay," he says. Nevertheless, guitarist Julian Swales and drummer Dan Goodwin — "the straight boys in the band" — are fully supportive of Fitzgerald's forthright approach to his sexuality. "They're honorary queers," says Fitzgerald.

Doesn't really mind the label

Whether he likes it or not, Fitzgerald is pegged as "the gay lead singer" in almost all their reviews. Even the band's record company proclaims Fitzgerald is gay in press releases. If it is not how he would choose to market himself, he admits that

Continued on page 46

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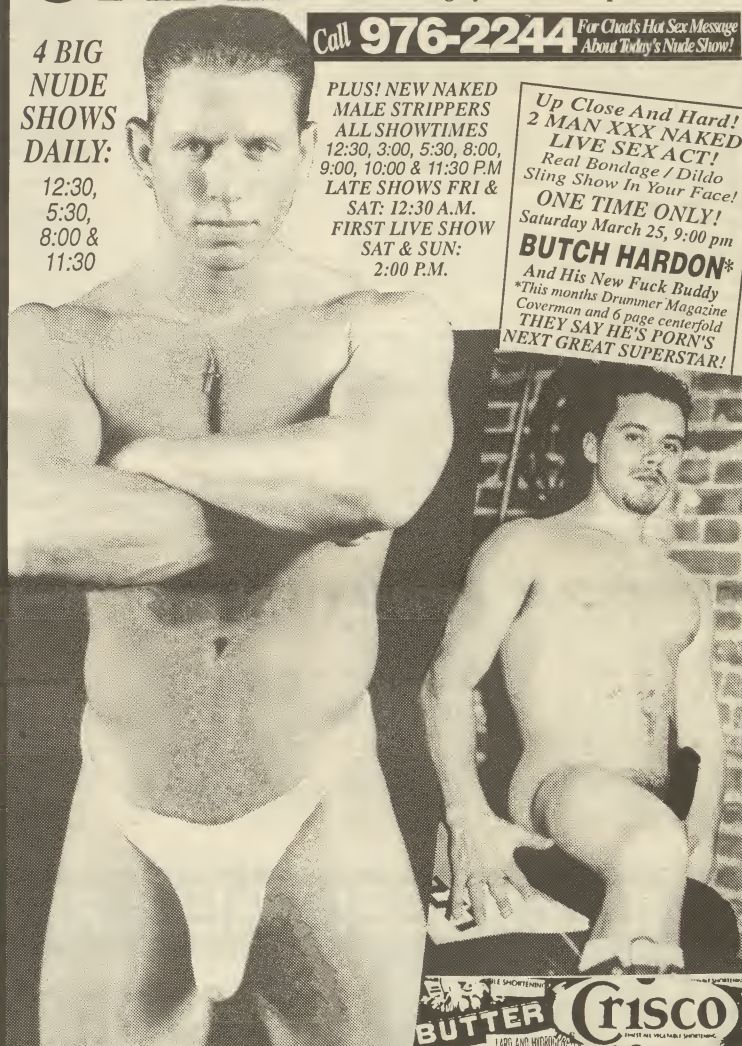
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PARTING GLANCES

Red and Chrome Harley - We talked in front of Jackhammer on President's Day about 7/8pm. Me: Goatee, T-shirt and 501's. Hope we can talk again. EXT 1550.

EBN Potluck - 2/11. You're Rick, wanting to use a fry pan on your Ex. Would like to talk to you again. EXT 1551.

Arney's Saturday 2/18 - I saw you in black leather jacket at check out and then at 17th & Treat. Me: black cowboy hat, white van, wish had tank in parking lot. Lets try again. EXT 1553.

2/24/95, 24 Divisadero 10:00pm - You: blond w/ beard, navy blazer talking w/ Asian female. Me: brown hair clean shaven black & white sport coat. Talked very briefly would like to talk more please call. EXT 1554.

Waiting For 1 CA Bus - 2/17 corner Sacramento & Van Ness. You: blond, blue eyes, jeans. Me: blond, sunglasses, black jacket, yellow sweater, jeans. We kept smiling at each other. You got off at Sac near Webster. I had to continue. Would love to meet you. EXT 1585.

Blue Jeep Wrangler - Fri, 3/3, 280, north bound, Palo Alto. You: blue Wrangler. Me: red Wrangler. We paced for several miles, let's meet and talk. Jim. EXT 2204.

Orsi's Sebastopol 2/23 - You were the blond at corner table. I was with gray beard at next table. We spoke as you left. Let's speak again. EXT 2200.

Walnut Creek Supercuts - Wed, 3/1. You: tall, blonde, white jeans, plaid shirt, baseball cap, very cute. Me: straw/blond, 6'. We each looked twice. Would like to see more of you. Yum! EXT 2201.

Cafe 3/10, Orphan Andy's Early Morn - You: long hair, glasses, blue plaid shirt, jeans, backpack. After dancing, caught you a second time at O.A. As I waited outside with friends for a table. Didn't want to interrupt your date?? Me: dark hair, vested, jacket. Will fate allow us to speak?? EXT 2301

The Hottest Guy In Town - Even the hottest guy in town is not worth you risking your health over. Play safe! Protect yourself & those you play with. Always wear a condom when having anal sex, & don't exchange bodily fluids. If you're HIV+, don't panic, get early treatment, talk to someone that can help, & still play safe. EXT SAFE.

Painter - Met on 38 Geary from Van Ness to Divisadero 6:30 on 2/25, spoke briefly. You: blond, glasses, with paint on hands. Me: brown hair, black leather jacket. Interested in talking more. Please call. EXT 2202.

Admirer From San Diego - We met in Berkeley 3/6. You: bln, gdlkg, formerly from Honolulu. I was visiting from San Diego. Scene created by jealous ex-boyfriend thwarted our efforts to finish getting acquainted. Rendezvous plans failed. Let's try again. EXT 2203.

Randy - Our "appointments" overlapped last Sunday. You were coming from the shower & I was sitting naked on the bed. You grabbed my dick. I'd like to grab yours. Call. EXT 2300.

Aids Dance-A-Thon - Cute Asian photographer, brown shirt, on stage taking pictures at 11:30, in pit during Village People. Me: tall WM, dancing near front, plaid vest. Let's do coffee. EXT 2302.

2/20/95 Muni Metro @ 7:15pm - You: Blond w/ mustache tux/tails. Me: brown hair clean shaven red jacket wearing head phones. We both got on @ Castro, you got off at Van Ness. We made great eye contact, would like to make great conversation. EXT 1552.

Muni Train 3/15/95 - I got on a Castro around 1:10pm, headed downtown. Me: tall, short black hair, goatee & moustache, wearing a grey suit and carrying a black briefcase. You: Periwinkle shirt, and reading "MEN on MEN#3." We smiled at each other but then someone sat next to you (dam!) You got off at Civic Center. I was rights behind you... where'd you go? Let's talk. EXT 2339.

11 March Sat. Moscone Center - Rich you are tall, handsome, masculine, dark hair(my girlfriend said you weren't) Me: black, tall, handsome, name is Wayne. EXT 2349.

David at Leathernecks - Eric is looking. Naked? In a cage? Yeah! Give me a call and I'm yours. EXT 2337.

SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

M-M

What a Turn On - If you think more w/ your brain then with your nice cock, are attractive, in shape, healthy, happy, sane, compassionate, enjoy life and celebrate nature and are a man of color, please contact GWM. Not into bar scene. New to SF. Want to laugh with you and see what happens! EXT 1558.

Are You Him - GWM, 35, 5'9", 175#, gym toned, into out doors movies, fine places and quite evenings at home. Is this you? EXT 1587.

GWM Seeking GBM - Me: 5'7", bl/bl, HIV-. You: 35-40yo, kind, close and oral. HIV-, NS, ND, NA. If interested, please give me a call. EXT 1561.

Romantic Good Kisser Top - Then this GWM, would like to hear from you. I'm 33, masculine, hairy, 5'10" & good looking. Enjoy hiking swimming, dinners, writing, movies and travelling. You be GWM masculine, humorous, sensitive, fun and sincere. EXT 1557.

Free for Summer Fun - Good looking yacht club type, gym, HIV+, single, 5'9", 145#, seeking same for cuddling, kissing, sex, and available for 3 mo crew aboard yacht. No smoker or drugs. EXT 1555.

Seeking Friendship & Maybe More - Attractive Hispanic, 25yo seeks GWM 25-30yo. Me: 5'6", 145#, dark hair, dark eyes, clean shaven, smooth body & professional. You: versatile, sincere, enjoy music, outdoors, NS, professional. Call for a date. EXT 1556.

Renaissance Man - Handsome, blond, 35, 5'11", 160#, toned, top. Enjoy art, music, food, travel, swimming, biking, seeks, exotic, sensuous, trim, interesting, creative, Latin, Asian, dark men. EXT 1559.

Black Man, 9+", Thick Uncut - Chris, you answered my add #4036. Sorry I accidentally erased your message before I wrote your telephone number down, call again. EXT 1560.

GWM, 36, Wiccan - Dark brown hair, green eyes, 185#, average build. Honest decent, forthright human w/ no preconceptions. Looking for the right gentleman. Let's meet and see what happens. You'll never know if you don't call. EXT 1586.

I'm Over This Crap! - I know some where in this city there is a man for me. I'm not asking for much just a GWM under 40, a top, who loves to have fun. I'm a GWM, 30ish, not gym built, I smoke and I'm real. EXT 1588.

GBM, HIV+ into Country Music & Dance - Seeks to meet dancing partner for lesson. Me: 5'9", 140#, low key personally. Not the he-man type, but many say I am a handsome. You: 35yo or older, slim to med build, balding head a+. Some what aggressive & interested in different experiences. EXT 1562.

Daddy Bottom/Boy Top - White daddy bottom, tall, 50, in-shape, 200#, healthy, HIV+, wants black, boy top to meet in playfulness and lusty sex, tit play, possible LTR if we connect beyond sex. EXT 1564.

Let's Get Together - GWM, hairy body, 35, 195#, looking for a fun outgoing top. If this is you give me a call. EXT 2206.

East Bay Sex Buddy - AM. BM, LM sought by gdlkg masculine light BM, 44, 6'2", in-shape for cuddling, caressing, hot safe fun, body worship and other healthy play. EXT 1565.

Filipino-Asian - Sought by not too old/not too young romantic Italian male for friendship/romance. Willing to enter the unknown, Sbay/San Jose area. EXT 1566.

Lets Enjoy Life! - GWM, Italian, 6'1", 200#, handsome, HIV+, seeks GAM, GLM, GWM for LTR. Be sincere and under 30, ND. Wants more than just sex out of life. I am clean and vers sexually. I love life, you and fun. Call lets meet. EXT 1567.

Attractive GWM Topman - 41yo, 6'1", 155#, beard, HIV-, seeks attractive, wealthy, GWM bottom for major financial assistance to pursue litigation on behalf of all PWAs, in exchange for?? LTR possible w/ right person. EXT 1568.

The Hottest Guy in Town - Even the hottest guy in town is not worth you risking your health over. Play safe! Protect yourself & those you play with. Always wear a condom when having anal sex, & don't exchange bodily fluids. If you're HIV+, don't panic, get early treatment, talk to someone that can help, & still play safe. EXT SAFE.

My Arms Hold What the World Lacks - Me: attrac, GWM, 44, 6'5", football players build. You: attrac, GWM, 21-35, slim. Good kisser a plus. Interests: Music, video, plays concerts, cabaret, fine dining. Sex: ass-massage, lite spanking w/ lots of hugs & kisses. Teddy bear top daddy is real lonely. EXT 1589.

Easy Going/No Pressure - GWM, 41, 6'1", 190#, short S&P hair, goatee, kinda hairy, HIV-, likes alternative music, TV, video, food, home, erotic photography, kissing, cuddling, JO. Seeking 40+, layed back, together guy into or appreciated the above. Hairy & bearded a plus. EXT 1590.

Hot, Muscular, 37, GWM Seeks - A smooth, hairless, Asian to date, poss. LTR. Not into bars. Please be stable, honest, sincere, no games or flakes. EXT 2205.

Friendship, Sex... Whatever! - GWM, gdlkg, masculine bottom, 6', br/bl, 26yo, 170#. Looking for something other than sitting home. Open to most anything! No violence or abuse. You: 18-30yo. Top slender build & gdlkg, SF to Sbay. EXT 1563.

A Cuddly-Feelly Kinda Guy - Me: HIV-, smoker, drinker, GWM, 6'4", 240#, bl/bl, 40yo, sensitive, caring together. You: GWM, HIV- 21-35, smoker, drinker, enjoys, touching, cuddling, gentle sex. Let's have a good time, build friendship, and what may cum our way. EXT 2207.

You're a Lean, Hairy Bottom - Clean, honest, dependable, smart, NS, 35-55, dark-haired, in shape. Your whole body, especially your tits, can take long, intense work-outs form a gdlkg, youthful 50's, very sexy, well-built top. No brutality or raunch. Oral sex or safe JO. LTR possible. EXT 2208.

GWM Late 30's, 6', 185" - Attractive (I resemble number one on Startrek). Looking for someone into working out, theatre, metaphysics. 28-40, NS. EXT 2209.

You Have Promiscuity Burnout - You're honest, clean, reliable, NS, 35+, dark-haired, hairy, lean, fit. Need one good man to sexually heal you. Restore your self-esteem need a 5'10", manly, dynamic, well-built, sexy fifties, fair-haired, sensitive, handsome, dominant dad. Come to papa. EXT 2350.

Prince Albert or Water Sports? - Seeks top Ital/White clean-cut, healthy, HIV+, pig, 24-32yo, into outdoors, not bar scene. Me: LM 23, 5'5", eco-student, shaved-head w/ piercings. A total pig ready to service you. Well hung tats a+. EXT 2210.

Single in Vallejo - GWM, HIV-, 5'8", 140#, bl eyes, attr, w/ model build, seeks a good friend who is caring, intellectual & considerate of others, cuddles and also seeking a good honest 30 to 40ish w/ healthy, wealthy & wise friendship. EXT 2211.

GWM, 35, HIV+, and Fit - Retired from show business and relocated from NYC. Passionate, opinionated, articulate, adventurous, eclectic and very good looking. Seeking friendship and courtship. EXT 2212.

African American Prince Wanted - For royal romance with tall, tanned snow white. I'm a 6'4", 33yo, in-shape, masculine, successful and loving European. UB a very attractive, tall, smart, romantic and always horny, dark complex prof, kinky yet cuddle. EXT 2213.

Sonoma County, GWM, 40 - Having trouble meeting men under 22(roughly). You're slim, intelligent, together, and local. Seeking older brother, cuddly, humorous, 5'10", 180#, br/br, a together, normal guy. EXT 2214.

Discreet, Hung, Black Top - 40, enjoys masculine bottoms with football players type build. Please be sincere, available, easy to reach by phone and able to travel to the Ebay weeknights. Tall, husky, mustached men a+. Thank you. EXT 2231.

Seeking Gentleman - Former model, 25, attractive, intelligent, sexy. Ready to settle down with older gentleman. I cook, handle appointments, & make love like a champion. Please call soon! EXT 2232.

Donahue Type - GWM seeks a younger GWM for dreams come true. I am trim and 5'8", 140#, blue eyes, full white hair, distinguished in looks, attitude and desires. You call, photo, letter gets mine right back. Race not important, heart, soul are it. HIV- a must, working, caring, love life, and God. EXT 2233.

HIV+, Latino 24 - "Would like to meet other positive guys, Latins or Caucasians 25-38 for friendship maybe more. Me: 5'7", 175#, olive complexion, clean cut, healthy, college student, mostly a top. You: NS, outgoing, honest, have own car or able to drive a stick, nice teeth. EXT 2234.

Finally Someone You Can Love! - GAM, 25, 5'4", HIV-, clean shaven, medium-length hair, east bay, CC/Alameda area seeks stable, committed, ambitious, NS, ND, politically liberal individual like me interested in creating a nurturing monogamous relationship. Enjoy challenging idea-bases conversation, but not nit-picking, walks, dinners, movies. Atheist a+! Please be 20-29. EXT 2235.

Sexy GWM - In need of top BM, in shape, sincere. Me: 6'2", 190#, 34, HIV-, mase, gdlkg. Wants to share everything w/ Mr. Right. EXT 2237.

Heart Break Valentine - I wish to be entwined let this be true. You: Eastern Indian or Pilipino. Me: bl/bl, 26yo, 6'4". EXT 2338.

Some One to Love - Son wanted 18-27, by GWM 50 (look younger), to love, admire, cherish & adore, for friend, companion & JO buddy, to spend time with. EXT 2346.

Wanted HIV+ 18-25 - GWM, bl/bl 6', 170#, healthy, HIV+, 31, looks 24. Into music, dancing, food, movies, romance, humor, life etc. You be younger, cute wanting of same and more. EXT 2347.

New To San Francisco - GJM, professional, romantic, honest, attractive, 32, 5'7", 135#. I enjoy the outdoors, travelling, eating out, movies and quiet evening at home. If you are honest, down to earth & sincere we were made for each other. EXT 2348.

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Deadline for ads is Wednesday 5:00pm for the following week's issue. New ads will then run for 3 consecutive weeks. You will be notified by mail with information and details on how to leave and retrieve messages from your mailbox ads. **PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY. NO ADS WILL BE ACCEPTED WITHOUT VALID ADDRESS, PHONE# AND UNDERSTANDABLE TEXT. DO NOT ATTACH ADDITIONAL PAPER OR TEXT. WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO EDIT ADS. THANK YOU FOR USING BARTALK.**

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BarTalk Personals

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Available only in the Bay Area on touch-tone phones.
You must be at least 18 y/o to call.

I Want You To Want Me - 35yo, 5'9", 170#, masculine, well fit Latin male seeks in shape masculine rugged handsome man 30-40's, for full service hot tongue and hot attitude a+. EXT 2303

Seeking Friendship - & Sensitive soul mate. 38yo, GWM, 6', 155#, clean shaven & HIV- looking for 25-35yo GWM who is sincere & fun loving. I'm intelligent, yet am a smoker who enjoys live music (R&B) & unpretentious bars. More into Haight than Castro lifestyle. Defiantly anti-retentive personality/winners & chronic complainers need not respond.) EXT 2304.

Seeking SF Top GWM - For raw penetration. You are younger than I, like drinking and eating out, given to romance. We are healthy and very affectionate. Me: GWM, early 50's, 5'11", 220# of non-attitude. EXT 2305.

Make my Heart Throb - Seeking Love. Me: GWM, 24, 6'1", br/bl, 170#, serious intelligent, cute, inexperienced, athletic(tennis), nice, a bit cocky, stern, honest, into philosophy, not into bars. You: under 30, HIV-, cute, honest, any race. Preferably tall, smooth, slim, boyish, and smart. LTR, NS, ND. EXT 2306.

I Have a Bear Magazine Look - GWM, 40, hairy, husky, balding, moustache, attractive, boyish looks for possible relationship. I enjoy bicycling, nature, Sci-Fi, Films, cuddling & safe versatile sex. EXT 2308.

Phi Beta Kappa & - Attractive, amusing, solvent, real estate broker without car has time on hands, could have you on mind if you're BART accessible! EXT 2309

HIV+, Top Wanted - Needs dark hair, brown eyes, moustache. No substitutes, no kidding-uncut and thick? Call me quick! Ebay GWM, 33, 6', 185#, bl/bl, bottom, seeks mellow fellow. LTR w/ Capricorn or Virgo. EXT 2310.

Dynamic, Committed Deep Love & Happiness - Sensitive, caring, mature, educated, disabled guy invited spiritual, caring, athletic, adventurous, young, warm guy with a big heart and high self-esteem to enjoy loving committed monogamous relationship. EXT 2311

Cute Boyish Asian - Hi, I'm looking for tall, muscular, handsome, men for fun times. We must have same interests playing video games, Karaoke (Cantonese or English), I'm 5'7", brn hr. brown eyes, weight? Serious guys only. EXT 2312

Brawny Bear Seeks Cub - GWM, 38, 6', 250#, fun loving, romantic, light drinker, non-smoker, honest top versatile. You: GWM/GHM, 5'5"-6', bottom versatile 30-45. Interest: bingo, bowling music, dining out, movies, flea markets, thrift stores. Walks moonlight cuddling and bedroom adventures. EXT 2313.

SEEKING ADVENTURE

M-M

Got a Relationship, Need Fuck Boy! - 37, GWM, 6', 210#, br/hz w/ stache & goatee sks boy next door for reg. plowing. UR 18-36, toned, HIV+, healthy, Wh/His/Eur/Asian, w/ gr8 ass. Tan lines & long hair are pluses, gr8 ass a must. I'm masc, mod hairy, daddy type. I love vanilla 2 kink w/ right person. Discretion assured. EXT 1540.

White Ass For Black Top - Black studs who enjoys fucking white ass, spanking and some bondage needed by 43, 5'10", 200#, bearded/balding big white ass, deep plowing for your satisfaction guaranteed. EXT 1578.

Deep Throat Expert - Hungry to service your crotch, balls & cock. I'm attractive, masc. man, good proportioned/body, healthy & hot to give long expor oral service to masc guys in real good shape. Hot and Horny. Ready some mornings & eves. EXT 1572.

Paranormal Experiences? - Psychic? touch, into parallel, realities, past lives? Esoteric spiritual pursuit? Me to: Lets talk. Louis blessed be. EXT 1574.

The Hottest Guy in Town - Even the hottest guy in town is not worth you risking your health over. Play safe! Protect yourself & those you play with. Always wear a condom when having anal sex, & don't exchange bodily fluids. If you're HIV+, don't panic, get early treatment, talk to someone that can help, & still play safe

Butt Play - Mutual anal pleasuring by fingers, toys, and like innovations-safe sex only. Me: 6', 180#, 67, exhibitionists, voyeuristic. You: companionable, long term relationship. San Francisco only. EXT 1575

Cock Obsessed Jack Offs - Must be open minded for heavy and intense jack offs w/ mutual dirty talk bordering on the dominic w/ a very attractive black male body builder. EXT 1577.

Plugfuckers' Throat - Hot tall lean prick-worshippers surrenders to machos looking to fuck/fuck-up a queers throat (one that needs a fat dick really check, maybe a couple? maybe smoke/aroma? throat-dildoes? maybe public/ maybe priv.) Big nips and shaved fat 8 1/2 laid out too, sirs. EXT 1579.

Service Me - Hot Italian ex-football jack seeks oral servicing on a regular basis. Cum freaks welcome. Call for detailed description. Long sessions preferred. EXT 1576.

One on One Party - SJWM, 38, seeks slim WBLM, 21-30, 6" bigger to get fucked-up w/, watch videos & enjoy hot, greasy sex w/out performance worry. I'm slim, non-buffed, hairy, 5'9", 160#, 6" cut, short hair/moustache. FRI/A, GRP, mutual JO & maybe more. Smoker OK. Smooth Body A+. EXT 1591.

Fantasy, Yours, Mine-Ours - Sexy, hairy masculine, GWM, brunette, 40, hung, seeks, smooth Btm who wants to "take on" more than one top. Hook up at steam works etc. For passion/pumping. Latin/Asian/Whit - short pref. EXT 1593.

Smooth Bottom Wanted - For passionate sex! Hairy, masculine, topman, big cock, 40, seeks smooth Latins, Asians, Black, White for hot Times. Masculine only, no blond, redheads or beards, in shape. HIV+ ok. EXT 1594

Attention Ass Play Tops - GWM, 43, 5'10", 200#, dark beard/ balding w/ talented, sexy ass, seeking tops into ass worship. EXT 1569.

Free Quality Massage - For nicely built young men who take good care of themselves. I'm 6'2", 175#, 40, gldking, masculine. I'm 6'2", 175#, 40, gldking, masculine. Come stretch out on my table for a safe pleasurable experience. Sincere only. EXT 2215.

Dildoes - GWM, stocky, handsome, hung, seeks big, stocky, fat men who enjoy long mutual dildoes plays. EXT 1573.

Have It His Way - Surrender control to this handsome, Hawaiian/Latin hunk 34, w/ smooth chiseled muscular body, love to pump your face and butt. Get tied up and used enthusiastically? I'll make you cum helplessly. You: cute, trim or muscular. EXT 1570.

East Palo Alto GAM - 35, 5'11", 205 smooth skin needs to be slowly mounted by hairy bodied man on a discreet basis. Please do not respond with answering machine on your return calls. EXT 1571.

East Bay GWM - Seeking top/versatile fuck buddy 44yo, 160#, HIV-, average build, brn/bl, any race, uncut a plus. EXT 2216.

Hot Handsome Hung Top - 39, 6', 160#, br/gr, healthy, HIV+, established, affectionate, romantic, at home kind of guy. Seeking GWM/GLM, masculine, in shape bottoms, 35-50. Hairy, beard, uncut, NS a+. EXT 2217.

Will Train Skinny Boy - Intrigued with bad? I'll show the right boy the ropes. You: 5'6" or less, very thin, under 35. Me: 5'8" strong yet sensitive. HIV- a must. EXT 2238.

Do Opposites Attract? - I'm a slim, healthy, HIV-, early 50's, GWM, fair, smooth, smaller, endowed, natural bottom. I'm very turned on to toptmen, hairy, chests, bigger endowments, and much more. What about you? EXT 2218.

Sonoma-Marin County Studs - Looking for hot, horny, hung studs for weekly safe sex parties. Please be between 18-35 and ready for hot man to man action. Limited to 10-12 hot guys. Call w/ description for more info. EXT 2219.

Hunting for Hung Men - 34, GWM, 5'9", 145#, br/bl trim goatie, smooth swimmer's build, 30" waist, 7.5 cut thick. Serious big dick fetish for hung in shape men under 38yo who like to show it off and play. White preferred. NS only. EXT 2220.

Attention Hot Bottoms - If the following interests you, please call! Kissing, hot, romantic, dinner, porno, 8 1/2"x6" hard, cock-tails, fun, 39yo, suck, fucking, in shape, 165#, 6', big hand, top!!! Bottom dad, uncut, NS, a+. EXT 2221.

BM, 35, 6'1" Goodlooking - Wants BM, 18-45yo. I can take 10" of manhood. No gag. I guarantee you'll be amazed. Deep throat. EXT 2222.

Chocolate Chip Wanted - Seeking very dark-skinned, beefy men over 40. Be mature, uncut and thickly-endowed. Good mind and body more important than looks. Big hands a plus! EXT 2324

Late Morning Sex Buddy Wanted - Ass massage- life spanking. Teddy bear dad needs bottom son. Me: Attrac, GWM, 45, 6'5", 280#, football player's build. You: Attrac, GWM, 18-35, slim, smooth-moderate body hair, with great buns. You need it bad! You won't regret it. EXT 2345.

Washboard Abs? - Muscular, clean cut, clean shaven, GWM, wants to service lean, hung gym jock who enjoys long, slow oral worship (rubbers ok). This GWM is darkly handsome. 5'5", 135#, 35yo, hard hairy chest, exceptionally talented, NS, ND, HIV-, in SF. EXT 2224.

On Going Encounters - Me: Ebay top WM, 40's, gldking, br/hzl, 155#, 5'11", HIV-, trim & tight body, nice uncut 8"(GA FA/FP) easy going nice guy. You: total bottom gldking, nice guy, in good shape, HIV-, similar size to me. Seeks Ebay men for hot safe sex, open to more. EXT 2225.

Aggressive Bottom - Eager and horny 29yo guy in Sonoma Co. looking for masculine, in-shape discreet guys under 30yrs. Let's fuck all weekend!! EXT 2328.

Masculine Hairy Bear - GWM, 45yo, 6', 195#, in shape. Hry masculine man looking for other hry men. Into hot JO and mutual hry butt sniffling. Must be verbal, hry a must, Ebay only, hry ass a plus. EXT 2226.

Butt, Oral Service, Party? - One white, one black sexy guys into total service especially hot bubble butts. If you are 18-35 like to party get serviced, groups, maybe top, give us a call, now is your chance Latins and Blacks a+, please be slender. EXT 2236.

Bi Top Curious - Handsome WM professional, discrete, sexy, romantic, HIV-, 49, 5'8", 170#, well built. Looking for sexy masculine bottom w/ hungry mouth and eager to please. HIV-. EXT 2314

Hang-On, I'm Coming - GWM, 31, 5'11", 165#, HIV+. Seeks males who are HIV+ or negative, for hot times, and new friendship. Pen-pals welcome. EXT 2315.

Great Head - GWM, friendly, fun. Luv's to suck and play with cock. You: 18-35, GWM/Straight trim, masculine. Want to lay back for service on a regular basis. S.F./Peninsula OK.

Married Man Only - I am older, pliable, obedient, conservative bachelor. I do you bidding exactly, precisely. Upper Haight. EXT 2317.

Dennis - You're 40, bl/bl, and you answered my ad "All Those Suits". Would like to get in touch but you didn't have a number. Call and leave your number this time. OK. EXT 2318.

Good Hot Sex - Is all I want. I'm handsome muscular 8 1/2 Italian top to bottom and ver oral. You be hot hung or nice ass. EXT 2319.

Here is My Fantasy - I lay naked on my bed you walk in (Door Open) w/ a hard on. You grease my man hole & fuck my ass, age, race unimportant, size is. EXT 2320.

Horny Seniors Wanted - Mature, hung, Ebay, black man enjoys 1 on 1 and small group sessions (videos, aroma, drinks) w/ serious, sincere, free-to-travel men in their 50's and 60's. No beeper, VM, car phones, please. All races and body types welcome. EXT 2321.

ISO Fat Dong Silver! - Tall GWM 40's, HIV, smoker, looking for GWM guy Friday (Saturday/ Sunday will do too) 40-56 w/ fat cut tool for oral worship. EXT 2322.

At Your Service! - Expert, hassle free, laid back oral service by hot Italian bottom. Available days and evenings. Seeking hot men to service and drain. No reciprocation desired. Straight and Bi men welcome. Castro Location. Call for description. EXT 2325.

I Want to Watch - You alone w/ another or in a small group possible join in or not, your decision. Very discreet, have my own place. Call for my description and more info. EXT 2326.

Erotic Masseur - Seeks sensitive men, 18-50 interested in intensive erotic pleasures. I'm 6'3", 42, 188#, and very keen on giving you something you have only dreamed about. EXT 2327.

GBM seeks BM - Gay, Bi, Straight, 35+, masculine, HIV-, thick uncut w/ hry balls. I love to suck both, evn & weekends. Ebay, mustache & chocolate complex is a plus. Give it a shot. You will enjoy it. I promise. EXT 2329.

Double Your Pleasure - Two horny buddies, both hung very big, like watching each other get serviced. One gay, one straight. Looking for talented, deep throats. Call only if you're very hungry. EXT 2340.

Amateur Model - Trim straight-acting, WM, 39 looking for lean, tight-bodied guys in 20's or 30's to pose naked. Free pictures. EXT 2341.

Tough Titty - Surrender lean hairy chest basket ass to masc goodlooking, clean cut, Germanic Dad, 35, 5'11", 170#, thick nipples shroomed veined dick. Dirty mind bearded blue collar a+. EXT 2342.

South Bay/Peninsula - Horny, blond, HIV-, 5'8", 160#, gym-toned, 32, needs to be serviced regularly. If you're under 45 w/ weight prop. to height then I want to pump your face and butt. Discreet only. EXT 2343.

Hot Blooded Latin Guy - GLM, 5'9", 160#, 25yo, very attractive spontaneous, energetic, creative & sexy, w/ a tendency to be wild and crazy and the ability to be serious and sweet. Seeks cute guys 20-35 who think they can take all that. EXT 2344.

FETISHES

Seeking Huge Nipples - I'm hot muscular 37. I want to meet a gldking guy w/ huge protruding nipples. Please be sincere, no games, flakes. EXT 2227.

Handsome Daddy, 44, Smoker - Needs full-time boy to spank, paddle, whip, piss on, squeeze balls and nipples, service me, hug, kiss and cuddle. Relationship oriented preferred. EXT 2228.

Big Bearded Bottom - Gldking, GWM, 40, 5'10", 240#(and losing), mod. hairy, HIV-, br/hzl, total bottom interested in servicing masc. dominant, sweaty Daddies in E Contra Costa (Concord, Pittsburgh, Antioch) or SF. Age, race, looks, size unimp, but hairy, older, blue collar types into VA, BD & having pits, crotch, feet sniffed a plus. EXT 1582.

Barefoot Buddy - Masc., bearded Ebay GWM seeks other men into reciprocal kissing, smelling, caressing our clean, moist bare feet. I'm HIV-, NA, ND & I like ad over body play & indulging ourselves mutual barefoot action/fantasy. JO, I'm 5'9", 140#, Ebay area preferred. EXT 1581.

ISO Skilled Depth Topfist - To the elbow easy, FFB, wants your biceps. fit 59, 5'11", 160#, beard, tats, deepthroat service needs opening to third shakra. Any age, race, small skilled hands, patience, get thru the tight place, please! EXT 2229.

East Bay Exhibitionist - HIV+, WM, 30, bl/gr, average build, wants to suck, JO, other safe activities with other HIV+ in shape guys in the Oak area. Prefer singles, open to couples. EXT 1580.

Hot Mouth & Tongue - Seeks smelly asshole & cock for long sessions of pleasure. GWM, HIV-, seeks same. Also hot phone JO. EXT 1583.

Lingerie & Dildoes - Looking for an HIV+, BM who likes lingerie and/or dildoes. I am an HIV+, GWM, 49, trim beard. LTR possible. EXT 1592

Hungry Toilet Fuck Boy - Needs regular use from redneck straight masculine studs, any race, age. Piss, shit, snot, spit, verbal abuse humiliation needed bad. EXT 2230.

The Hottest Guy in Town - Even the hottest guy in town is not worth you risking your health over. Play safe! Protect yourself & those you play with. Always wear a condom when having anal sex, & don't exchange bodily fluids. If you're HIV+, don't panic, get early treatment, talk to someone that can help, & still play safe. EXT SAFE.

GWM, 45, 5'11", 190# - Muscular, balding, very hairy, HIV-uncut seeks younger in-shape, HIV-, GWM or GLM for docking, JO, and foreskin stimulation. EXT 2330.

Diaper Discipline - Were you kept in diapers past the age of 5 for bed wetting or discipline. This discreet "Daddy" will return you to those special times when you could wet yourself and be changed. "Daddy" will diaper and change you and treat you like the big baby you really are. Call and leave your name and a short story of your past treatment and baby ways. EXT 2331.

Guy Packing Seven Plus - Wanting experienced early forties dad to get you off all the way. I can take it. HIV+, hairy, husky, blonde, bear has videos to please gay, bi-curious, straight, first timers, come one, come all. EXT 2332.

Bootlicker, Foot Fetishist - Attractive, older gent seeks good looking hunk to live out fantasy. Only totally safe dry sex. It would probably be worth your while to answer. EXT 2333.

Palo Alto GAM - 35, 5'11", 205#, smooth chested, seeks tit sucker to lick, bite, tick, suck my nipples, make me moan. Prefer unshaven face, in return I'll suck your cock. Palo Alto area only. EXT 2334.

Muscle-Mauling Mayhem! - Bare-assed in boots for no-holds-barred wrestling, gloved boxing, bare-fisted sparring, CBT duels, pec-pounding rough-house action, plus massage, ball sucking, leather, belts. I'm a hard hairy hunk of a man looking for same. Hairy-chested blondes, blacks, Mexicans most welcome. EXT 2335.

COUPLES

Mature, Stable, GWCPL - Gldking, both bearded, bearrish, husky, and hairy, 50 & 40. One top/one bottom. Both HIV-, together 18yrs. Seeks a mature, versatile, 3rd man to complete our family. We have a large home in E Contra Costa (Antioch) we'd like to share w/ someone special. Please be employed, mobile, over 35, over 5'8", between 170-275#, EXT 1584.

Co-Parenting - 27yo GWM seeks female for very serious arrangement. I am responsible, very caring, and a pretty cool guy w/ a strong desire to be a dad. Lets talk and see what transpires. EXT 2336.

Still only 98¢ per minute to respond to ads!

1-900-844-2227

this week

Wanna Submit?

Send calendar listings to:

This Week
Bay Area Reporter
395 9th Street
San Francisco, CA 94103

Deadline is the Thursday
before issue date.

F 24

Banjo

One man solo minstrel extravaganza by Bob Davis. Thurs.-Sat. thru 4/15. \$10-12. 8pm. Climate Theatre, 252 9th St. **626-9196.**

Betrayal

Harold Pinter's drama of an adulterous affair. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm thru 4/8. \$11-13. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness Ave. **861-8972.**

Blood Lines

Carmen de Monteliores's drama about growing up Puerto Rican. Fri. & Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 7pm thru 4/2. \$6-15. Noh Space, 2840 Mariposa St. **(510) 548-6547.**

Camille

Theater of the Ridiculous founder Charles Ludlam's parody veers between high and low culture, directed by David Hawkins. Wed.-Sun. thru 4/8, call for times. \$12-18. 8pm. Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St. **861-5079.**

Fences

August Wilson's award-winning drama. Thurs.-Sat. thru March. \$12. 8pm. Multi Ethnic Theatre, 953 DeHaro St. **550-8161.**

The Joy of Gay Sex

John Fisher's play about sex and sexual politics in an extended run, thru 3/24. \$15. 8pm. Bayfront Theatre, Bldg. B, Fort Mason. **776-8999.**

June Bride

Sara Felder's one-woman show about a Jewish lesbian wedding: juggling, balancing and sharp knives. Wed.-Sun. thru 3/26. \$12. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. **861-7933.**

The original de Young Museum, celebrating its 100th birthday,
SEE SAT



Lawrence Pech of the Diablo Ballet,
SEE TUES

Lesbian/Gay Chorus of SF

"A Grand Night for Singing!" Fri. & Sat. \$25 sponsor, \$15 general. 8pm. Cowell Theater, Fort Mason. **861-7067.**

Lo-Cal

Delicious art without all the fat, curated by Marisa Hernandez Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm thru 4/15. Southern Exposure, 401 Alabama. **863-2141.**

Mission Sole

Mixed media show by Mission art-makers opens tonight, 7:30pm. Thurs.-Sat. thru 4/15. Collision, 417 14th St. **431-4074.**

Mr. Backlash

Autobiographical performance by Alison Wright, Marci Blackman, Raphael Caussman. Fri. & Sat. \$7-10. 8pm. Luna Sea, 2940 16th St., #216C. **863-2989.**

Nico, My Empty Pages

Life of the late singer/actress, written and performed by Omewenne Grimstone. Thurs.-Sat. thru 3/25. \$10. 8pm. Bernice St. Playhouse, 21 Bernice St. **863-5946.**

Patrick Murphy Is Not Promiscuous

Gregory O'Neill's solo performance piece: adventures as a "full-body" masseur. Fridays thru March. \$10. 10pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. **861-7933.**

The Pussy Performances

Carol Queen, Jessica Patton, Stephanie Rosenbaum, oth-

ers. Fri. & Sat. \$7-10. 8:30pm. 848 Divisadero. **922-2385.**

She Dares to Drum

Percussion play composed and performed by Barbara Borden. Thurs.-Sat. at 8:30pm thru 4/8. \$8-12. The Marsh, 1062 Valencia. **826-5750.**

Six Degrees of Separation

First locally produced production of John Guare's hit play. Fri. & Sat. at 8pm thru 3/25, Sun. 3/26 at 2pm. \$10. Diego Rivera Theatre, CCSF, Phelan & Judson Ave. **239-3100.**

SA 25

BWMT-SFBA

Organizational mtg. for Black & White Men Together-San Francisco Bay Area. 1pm. 752 Shotwell, Apt. 2 **648-1153.**

Centennial Saturday

Celebration of 100th birthday of M.H. de Young Museum, free admission. 10am-5pm. Golden Gate Park.

Ferron

Butch Canadian folksinger. \$17.50-19.50. 8pm. Luther Burbank Center for the Arts, 50 Mark West Spring Rd., Santa Rosa **(707) 527-7006.**

for colored girls

"who have considered suicide/ when the rainbow is enuf," Ntozake Shange's staged choreopoem, opens tonight. \$18-22. Thurs.-Sun. thru 4/9. Lorraine Hansberry Theatre, 620 Sutter St. **474-8800.**

Gay Comedy Night

Matina Bevis, Suzy Berger, Lisa Geduldig. \$10. 10pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. **861-7933.**

Gay Educators

Lesbian, gay and bisexual educators invited to social event. 6:30-10pm. Cadillac Bar and Restaurant, 325 Minna St. **252-9869.**

Girth & Mirth Club

"Italian Food Feast" for chubbies and their admirers. 7pm. Call for info: **824-0260.**

The Hail Marys

With Ain't and Glamazon, hard rock band with transsexual lead singer Christine Beatty. \$5. 10pm. El Rio, 3158 Mission. **282-3325.**

A History of Homosexuality

"In Six Scenes" a new comedy with music by John Fisher. Sat. & Sun. thru 3/26. \$15. 8pm. Bayfront Theater, Bldg. B, Fort Mason. **776-8999.**

LAVA Awards

Bay Area Career Women presents "Lesbians of Achievement, Vision and Action" awards. \$80. 6:30pm. Hyatt Regency, Market & Drumm. **495-5393.**

Late Night with Joan Jett Blakk

"Late Night" returns with co-host Miss Betty Pearl. Saturdays thru 4/1. \$8. Midnight. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. **861-7933.**

Pirates of Penzance

Lamplighters' production of Gilbert & Sullivan's classic operetta. Fri. & Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 2pm thru 4/30. \$23. Presentation Campus Theatre, 2350 Turk. **227-0331.**

Quiet Explosion

Dramatic nature photography by Momo, free. 12-4pm. Fort Mason, Bldg. C, Rm. 205. **333-4785.**

Spin

"Feed" videomaker Brian Springer's intercepted satellite transmissions. \$5. 8:30pm. ATA Gallery, 992 Valencia. **824-3890.**

Jon Sugar

Comedy and more. Donation. 9pm. Cafe Via Teatro, 456 Geary. **731-2424.**

SU 26

A Foot in the Door

Work by women artists exploring issues of immigration, with "A Postcolonial Kindredhood," an installation by Elaine Reichel. Sun.-Thurs. thru 4/30. \$3. The Jewish Museum, 121 Stuart St. **543-2090.**

GAWK

Gay Artists and Writers Collective weekly meetings Sun., 2:30pm. Info: Jon Sugar at **731-2424.**

I Always Meant to Write

A collection of unsent letters. Sundays thru March. \$10 (submit a letter, \$2 off). 8pm. Exit Theater, 156 Eddy St. **673-3847.**

John LeFlore

Paintings and drawings at Black Mud Cafe, 101 Carl St. thru 3/30. **362-4611.**

Joni Mitchell

Spotlight on the singer/songwriter. 4-6pm. KUSF 90.3 FM.

Orquesta Original

Salsa Garden Party. \$7 cover. 4-8pm. El Rio, 3158 Mission St. **282-3325.**

M 27

David Barnett

Chalk pastels of male nudes, Folsom St. Fair, florals and landscapes. Thru 3/31. Sweet Inspiration, 2239 Market St.

Pamela Brody

Photography: nude self-portraits and nature. Thru March. Mad Magda's Russian Tea Room, 579 Hayes St. **864-7654.**

DaDe Art

Masculine imagery by Michael Schruender at Castro Station thru 3/31.

Gay Comedy Open Mike

M.C. Karen Ripley. Aspiring queer comics sign up by phone. \$5. 8pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. **861-7933.**

Oscar Night at the Exit

1st anniversary of Exit Theatre. \$5. 6pm. 156 Eddy. **931-1094.**

Quiz Bang

Game show full of gay trivia. Mondays. \$15. 8pm. Cable Car Theatre, 430 Mason St. **956-TIXS.**

Saint Michael

Pop paintings by Julian feature Michael Jackson, Liz Taylor, more. Mon.-Sat., 9am-6pm, Sun. 10am-5pm thru 4/9. Architects and Heroes, 2239 Fillmore. **921-8383.**

Hugh Shurley

Photo collages. Mon.-Sat. 10-6pm thru 4/8. John Pence Gallery, 750 Post St. **441-1138.**

TU 28

Art of the Other Mexico

"Sources and Meanings," paintings and sculpture by artists of Mexican descent. Tues.-Sun. thru 5/14. \$4. Center for the Arts, 701 Mission St. **978-ARTS.**

Diablo Ballet

Three world premieres and Balanchine's "A la Francaix." Tues. & Wed. \$17-30. 7:30pm. Regional Center for the Arts, 1601 Civic Dr., Walnut Creek. **(510) 943-SHOW.**

Gerard Koskovich

Historian gives talk on "The Nazi Persecution of Homosexuals," sponsored by gay Democratic clubs, free. 7pm. MCC, 150 Eureka.

Greg Louganis

Signing his autobiography *Breaking the Surface*. 7:30pm. A Different Light, 489 Castro. **431-0891.**

The Play's the Thing

A.C.T.'s production of P.G. Wodehouse's adaptation. Tues.-Sun. thru 4/2; call for times. \$13-39. 8pm. Stage Door Theatre, 420 Mason St. **749-2ACT.**



Post Pre-Raphaelites

Sanda Beck, Mario Calvano, Michael Dowling, others. Tues.-Sat. thru 4/8. Terrain, 165 Jessie St. **543-0656.**

Ranch and Oblivion

Black-and-white photographs from Michael Light. Tues.-Sat. 11-5:30 thru 4/29. Robert Koch Gallery, 49 Geary. **421-0122.**





Greg Louganis
signing *Breaking the Surface* at A
Different Light,
SEE TUES

What's My Mantra?

Mick Berry's comic anti-new age autobiographical journey. Tuesdays. \$12. 8pm. Cable Car Theatre, 430 Mason. 956-8497.

W 29

Brother, Can You Spare Some Time

Site-specific film installation by Ernie Gehr, 1995 Adaline Kent Award exhibition, opens tonight, 5:30pm. Tues.-Sun. thru 4/30. Walter/McBean Gallery, SFAL, 800 Chestnut. 771-7020.

Fruit Punch

Gay men's radio program, every Wed. 7pm. KPFA, 94 FM.

Gay Lives & Culture Wars

Video focusing on gay & lesbian youth. \$5-10. 7:30pm. La Peña Cultural Center, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. (510) 849-2568.

Gay Skate

Rink full of queers on roller-skates. \$5 includes skates rental. 8-10:30pm. Rolladium

Roller Rink, 363 North Amphlett, San Mateo. Info: 96-SKATE.

Inscrutable Objects

"Image and Icon in Recent Photography." \$4. Tues.-Sun., 11am-5pm thru 5/7. Ansel Adams Center for Photography, 250 4th St. 495-7000.

Raymond Saunders: Black Paintings

Themes from African-American life in the work of a pre-eminent Bay Area painter. Wed.-Sun., 10am-4:45pm thru 4/30. \$5. deYoung Museum, Golden Gate Park. 863-3330.

TH 30

Access

New sculptures by Stephen Hendee and Peter Cole. Thurs.-Sun. 12-5pm thru 4/14. Acme Gallery, 667 Howard St. 512-7572.

BABRA Awards

Dorothy Allison keynotes Bay Area Book Reviewers Assn. awards ceremony. \$12 at bookstores. 6pm. Cowell Theater, Fort Mason. 883-2353.

Betrayal

Paul Salzman and Louise Chegwidin in Harold Pinter's play. Thurs.-Sat. thru 4/8. \$11-13. 8pm. New

Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness Ave. 861-8972.

Bingo

Gay bingo benefits Coming Home Hospice, every Thurs. \$12. 6pm. Most Holy Redeemer Church, 100 Diamond St. 241-0425.

The Killer

Absurdist whodunit by Ionesco. Thurs. thru 4/6. \$7. 8:30pm. Exit Theatre, 156 Eddy. 673-3847.

Liquid Soap

Improvised soap that invites the audience to steer the storyline. Thurs. thru 4/6. \$7. 10:15pm. Climate Theater, 252 9th St. 588-0520.

A Small Leashed Monkey

Live solo performance with video by Deke Weaver, directed by Jayne Wenger. Thurs.-Sat. thru 4/1. \$7-9. 8pm. Bindelstiff Studio, 6th & Howard. 974-1167.

The Stepford Wives

The Sick and Twisted Players' interpretation. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm thru 4/29. \$12-15. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness Ave. 861-8972.

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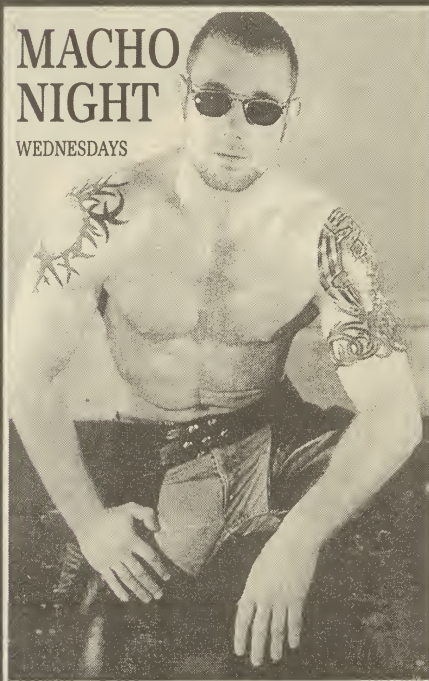
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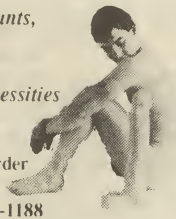
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MR. MARCUS

In The Thick of the Leather Titles

Aspirants to the International Mr. Leather title are lining up as contests to determine who will go to the final competition are completed all around the country. Last Wednesday, the Jackhammer was the first bar in our town to pick a contestant to compete for the Mr. SF Leather title.

Prospective entrees are reminded once more that there is a one-year residency requirement for all contestants in the Mr. SF Leather competition. At the Jackhammer, there were three hopefuls, but two of them did not meet that requirement, leaving one contestant. Soooo, Mr. Jackhammer 1995 is Tommy Reaves, who certainly projects a positive leather image. Tommy is also Mr. February 1996 on the Eagle Bare Chest Calendar, so it looks like it will be a busy year for him!

In Richmond, VA last Saturday night, the Teddy Bear Club and Bill Costimiris staged the Mr. Southeast Leather contest at Fielding's Bar with over 200 people in attendance. Describing himself as a "teddy bear bottom," 41-year-old and very distinguished looking Mike Prater, of Richmond, took the title with Peter Delate of Charlottesville, VA the first runner-up, and Ralph Mick the second runner-up. Needless to say, there were shenanigans. Some gremlin managed to get the sheets out of emcee Frank Nowicki's hotel room and strips of it were auctioned off at \$5 a throw for "a souvenir" of the dowager Mr.

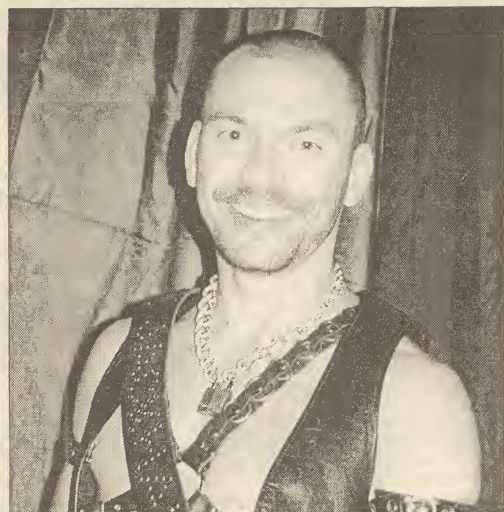


Photo: Mr. Marcus

The City's first contender for the Mr. San Francisco leather title, Tommy Reaves, is Mr. Jackhammer Leather '95, chosen at the bar last Wednesday, March 15.

Mid-Atlantic Leather.

The Corps of Men Making a Noticeable Difference (C.O.M.M.A.N.D.) of Baltimore were there in full force and made quite a public statement that C.O.M.M.A.N.D. does not mean "Come on Mary, Make A New Dress!" It now means: "Chill Out Mister Marcus, And No (more) Dish" (about us)! Well! I didn't give them that name, other Mid-

Atlantic region clubs did! Great fun, as always. IML Jeffrey Tucker was there and was on his best, best behavior. (His lover was with him).

Around our campus, six dudes tromped the stage at the Eagle on Thursday night, March 16, hoping to win the Mr. June 1996 spot on the bare chest calendar. Judges Philip Turner, Lynn Odvody and Dennis of Eichelberger's put them through the paces. Lots of laughs and this one ended in a tie! - only the third time in the calendar's ten-year history has this occurred. When all the scores were counted, Jose Esposito was the runner-up and the tie for Mr. June was between Andy Rose and Wolf Mirasol! Some photographer will have a field day with these two! Mr. July 1996 will be chosen on Thursday, April 6.

The last vestiges of the soon-to-be-history Bear Bar on Castro were auctioned off on Friday to the tune of some \$2,300 for the AIDS Emergency Fund. While it's only a matter of days before the Bear will become "Daddy's" the new proprietor, Philip Turner, is already on his way to making his bar a viable fundraiser for the community.

Meanwhile, the very hunky, very compact Mr. Leather of Portland (Oregon), Brian Bramlett, breezed into town and made the rounds of the gay venues, including Ramos Fizzes at the Buena Vista Cafe. I dare say, Mr. B. will give the other contestants a run for their money in Chicago next May! He certainly turned heads at the Eagle on Friday night!

Saturday night, "Iron" Mike Pereyra arrived in Faghdad-by-the-Bay and was seen cavorting in gay venues all over town, including the Club Universe

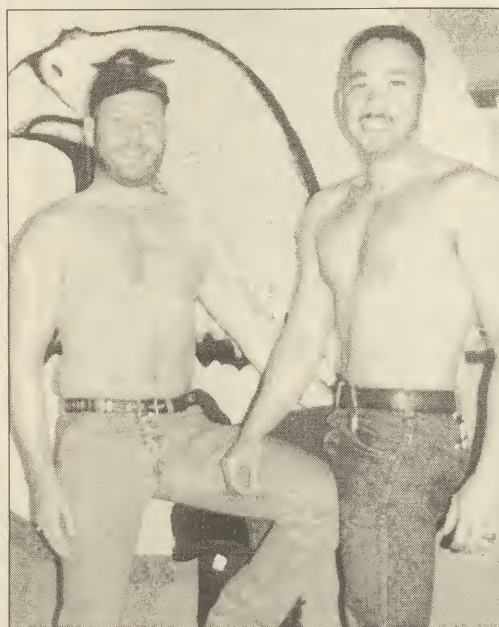
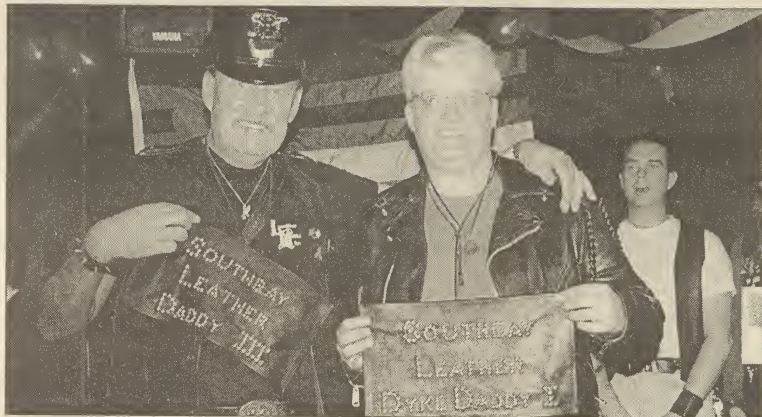


Photo: Mr. Marcus

It was a tie for the Mr. June 1996 spot on the Eagle's bare chest calendar last Thursday, March 16, between (L.) Andy Rose and Wolf Mirasol. This is the third time it happened in the 10-year history of the calendar.



Leather Daddy III Neal Bulmer (L.) and Dyke Daddy I Ty Johnson were installed in a very successful benefit at Greg's Ballroom in San Jose last Sunday, March 19.

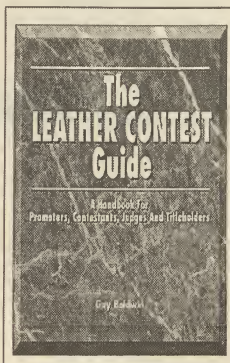
blockbuster Saturday night with Grace Jones. Jam-packed, great performance, hot numbers everywhere!

On Sunday, Pushy Phyllis of the GDI's was miffed that I did not list his club's Spring Equinox beerbust at the Eagle in the Affairs to Remember section of last week's issue. Phyllis, damrrrrring, if your corresponding secretary would send me anything, I'd print it. After all, it's been two years since she's been Empress and she should be re-organized back into the club by now!

I hightailed it to San Jose Sunday with Leather Daddy-O Philip Turner & Mr. Watering Hole Leather for Life Greg Pennington for the Leather Daddy III and Dyke Daddy I contest at Greg's Ballroom. The place was packed and Mr. and Ms. San Jose Leather Kevin and Pat had their act(s) together. With Ms. SF Leather Diana

Hardick and Philip Turner emceeding and with "readings" from Pat Califia's *Doing It For Daddy* by various female leather celebs, the evening went off without a hitch.

There was only one contestant for each title, and well-deserved it was that the title Dyke Daddy was bestowed on 41-year-old Ty Johnson, who's been active in Southbay leather circles for a long time. Neil Bulmer is Leather Daddy III. He also owns Buck's Saloon in San Jose. Neil has been a daddy since the '50s and has a real son who is a celeb in his own right. A very nice turnout for one of the most successful leather events in San Jose. All the beneficiaries got the cash right on the spot. Judges Don Thompson, Craig Neely, and B.J. were most competent. It was a good show! Now, maybe Steve Lesh can finally get some rest! ▼



Every year about this time, this book is a bestseller for serious leather title seekers. It's written by IML '89 Guy Baldwin. It's available at any decent gay bookstore.

Affairs to Remember

Thursday, March 23

Mr. SF-Eagle Leather Contest at 2100 sharp. Judges Deb Coss, David Dysart, Peter Haase, Mike McNamee and Andy Rose will choose the man to win \$300 cash, a custom leather title vest and belt by Geoffrey James at Rob of Amsterdam, and represent the Eagle at the Mr. SF-Leather Contest on April 22. Don't miss it!

Beginning tonight and every Thursday night: Leathermen's Stag AA Meeting at St. Francis Church (152 Church Street) at 2000. All 12-step groups welcome, but leave your mate at home!

Weekend, March 24-26

Mr. New Mexico Leather '94 Matthew Lopez hands over his sash at The Ranch in Albuquerque Saturday night when the big kahunas of the sash rash group gather in the Land of Enchantment to help the Sandia Leathermen MC pick a contestant to send to Chicago. Adding a Ms. New Mexico Leather contest this year. Memo for Mark Frazier: Don't let anyone do peepee in your teepee, damrrrrring! I'll be there judging, so you'll have the exclusive photos next week!

Friday, March 24

SOMA action at only one location tonight: Knights of

Malta MC's "Stogie, Studs & Boys" beer bust at the Eagle (\$6) from 2000 to 2300. Bring your stogies!

The "leather person" contest scheduled at the Watering Hole for tonight has been canceled due to "alleged creative differences" between Jo Leroux and owner Dennis. Call the bar to confirm this, but don't expect to have Dennis return your calls. He doesn't take calls when he's there and does not respond to messages, either. But try, darlings, try.

Saturday, March 25

"Mr. Exploratorium" Bert Herrman facilitates The Ring discussion group on "Handballing" from 1300 to 1500. Admission is \$10. Call (415) 522-9696 for location.

Ms. Sacramento Leather contest at Jammin' Jo's in the capital at 2000. Sliding scale \$5-10. Call (916) 448-5155 for more info.

Golden Gate Gay Rodeo Association/Bay Area hosts beer bust at Eagle from 2000 to 2300, \$6, door prizes.

Sunday, March 26

Phoenix U/C hosts a "Boots" contest and \$8 beer bust, 1500-1800, at the Eagle, with prizes for shiniest, sleaziest, tallest and best overall boots. Raffle for two pairs of engineer boots (14" and 12" tall) and gift certificates from

Mister S. Don't miss this one!

Friday, March 31

Mr. Edge Leather contest at 2200. A \$7 beer bust from 2000 to midnight. Danny Williams emceeding and \$300 cash prize. You'll represent the Edge at Mr. SF Leather on April 22. Raffle tickets are a buck. All this and Eric Weinman, too?

Saturday, April 1

Ms. SF Leather Contest at Pleasuredome tonight, with big casino gaming, great entertainment by the Trio of Dyke Daddies, Kim Wallace of Sacto and fun, fun, fun! Winner goes to IMs.L in Chicago on July!

Mr. Washington State Leather contest at Neighbors in Seattle tonight. "Gorgeous" George Morton sashes his successor: Lenny Broberg emcees - capping Seattle's Leather Pride Week!

In the Big Apple, they'll pick Mr. NY Leather at The Tunnel (27th St. at 12th Ave.), featuring the Latin Men of Black Eagle Leather from L.A. AmFAR is the beneficiary of Orlando Diaz's last night with the title. Thanks, George and Orlando, for a great year!

Those rodeo guys again tonight at the Eagle, with a \$6 beer bust from 2000 to 2300 and a "Cheeks in Chaps" contest at 2200. Contestants can get the details by calling (415) 641-9796. ▼

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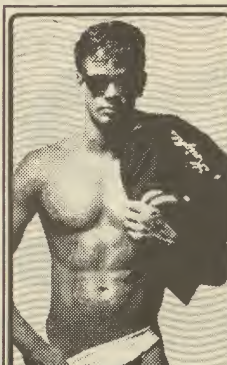
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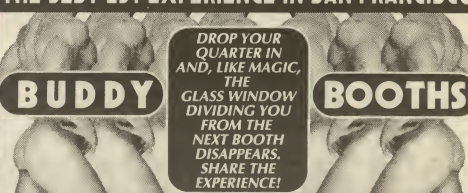
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INTERVIEW

Fitzgerald

Continued from page 39

the label does not bother him.

"It still doesn't do me much good, though, on the boys lining up outside the stage door," he says with a chuckle. Noting that he's been "unhappily single" since ending a long-term relationship three years ago, Fitzgerald laughs at the fantasy of male groupies tearing at his clothing as he leaves the stage. "That was, I have to admit, a

secondary motive when I came out."

Fitzgerald will have another shot to meet prospective groupies when the band tours the States this spring to promote the album. Although the band has gained a following in this country, especially after opening for Suzanne Vega on tour two years ago, this time they'll only play small venues, not large concert halls.

"Anywhere with seats makes us really uncomfortable," says

Fitzgerald. "We're standing up, and we think everyone else should be standing up."

Despite maintaining a loyal fan base in the U.S., Kitchens of Distinction is still an "alternative band," however the term can be defined. But Fitzgerald isn't willing to change his style or temper his gay perspective to make the band more palatable to pop radio and MTV. Besides, he probably wouldn't fit into the pop mainstream anyway. Noting that pop music

in the U.S. doesn't include queer-tinged favorites like Portishead, Pansy Division or My Bloody Valentine, and leans toward the likes of Ace of Base and Mariah Carey, Fitzgerald's gut reaction is immediate: "That music really makes me scream with anger," he says. "I'd love to be alternative to that."

So Fitzgerald has no aspirations of pop stardom, if pop fame means having the right haircut, a great video and a sell-

out stadium tour. He'd rather make honest music than craft perfect jingles.

"Music has nothing to do with making money in the true art of it. If it means that we're seen as a little sideshow, then that's terrible, but I wouldn't change anything about it," says Fitzgerald. "We must be true to ourselves, because if we've got to play these songs, we've got to like them. All you can do is what pleases your heart and your soul." ▼

'Muscle'

Continued from page 35

love affair in Bronwyn's future? LaZebnick says yes, adding that it could happen as early as next season (which, to get a jump on the major networks, starts in August). Executives at WB, however, are a bit more cautious. "On a personal level, I'd love to see it," says Susanne Daniels, head of development for the fledgling network. "But on a professional level, I know that advertisers are very touchy

about this stuff. We'd have to see."

Another factor that determines Bronwyn's character is the success of the show itself. Since its debut in January, *Muscle's* ratings have lagged at the very bottom of the Nielsen list. Now in repeats, the network has shown nine of the series' 13 episodes and will air the last four in May. After that, the program's fate is uncertain.

Pietz, however, remains optimistic. She believes most of the cast is prepared to spend the next two years with the show. As for Bronwyn's future, Pietz said she's looking forward to some steamy onscreen action. However,

she'd also like to invest her character with more than just a sex drive.

"I would love to be in a scene where my sexuality is not an issue, where I am simply living life, having some odd little caper happen, without me having to announce that I'm a lesbian, or having someone else call me a lesbian," she said. But such a departure seems unlikely at this point. If Pietz's career reflects Bronwyn's then as long as the word "lesbian" can pique viewer interest, it's sure to remain a prominent part of the show's script. ▼

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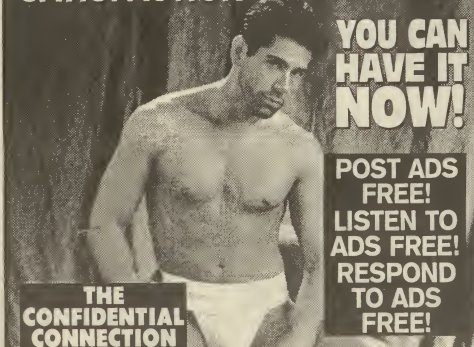
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AND
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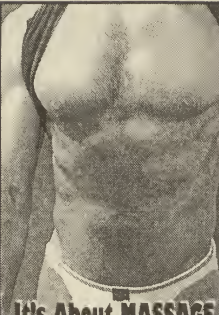
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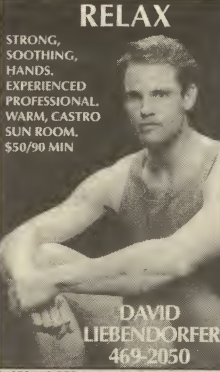
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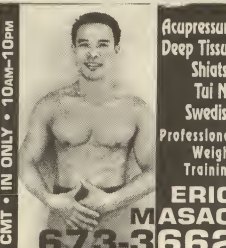


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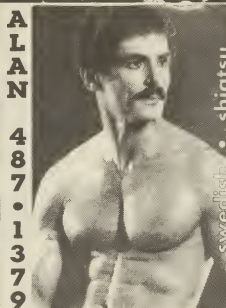
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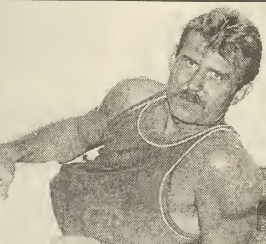
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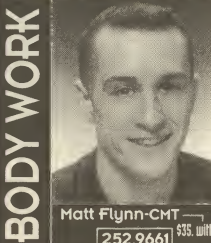
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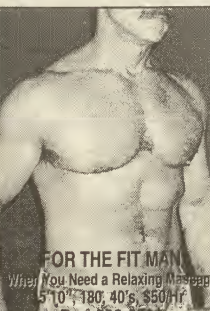
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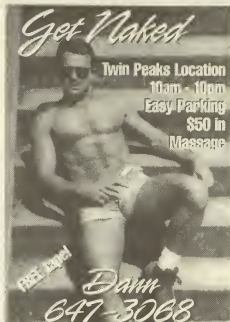
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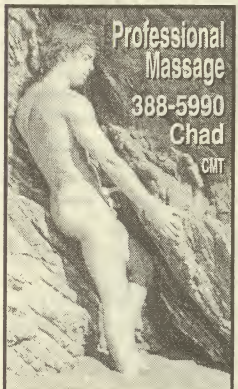
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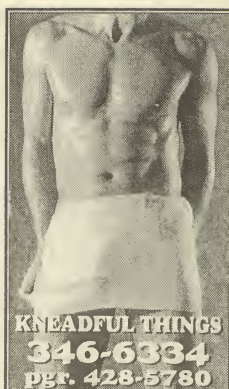
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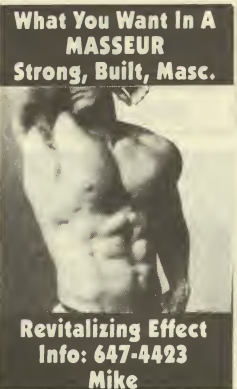
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in life and my full-body erotic
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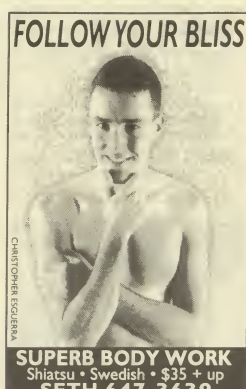
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Strong, Sensitive Touch
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Revitalizing Effect
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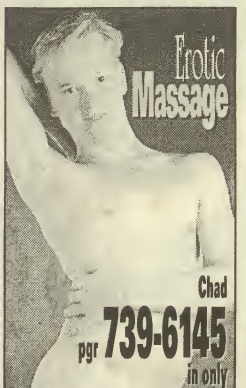
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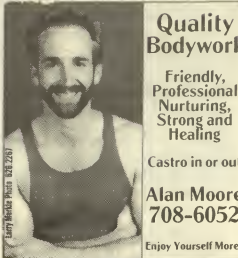
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Marty McCorkle
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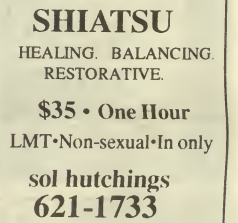
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Friendly,
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Nurturing,
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Enjoy Yourself More!

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In Walnut Creek, friendly, good-
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touch. Older, married welcome!
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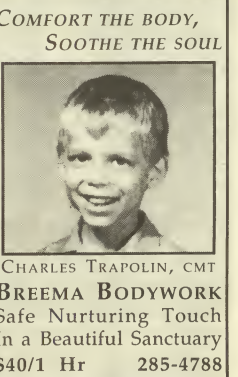
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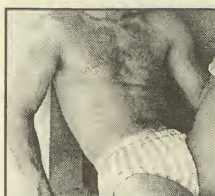


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For Your Body and Head
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FULL BODY / EROTIC
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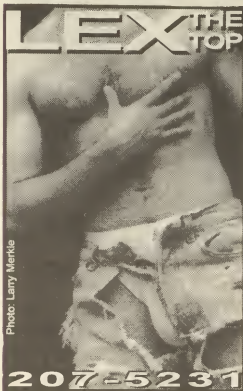
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6' 170# BR BLU
29 YR

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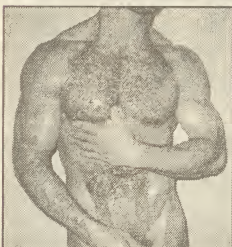
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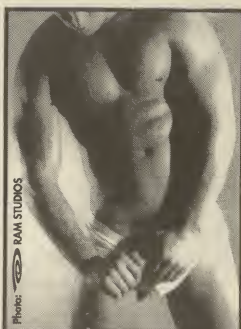
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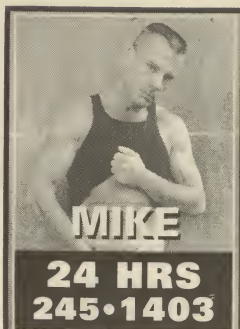
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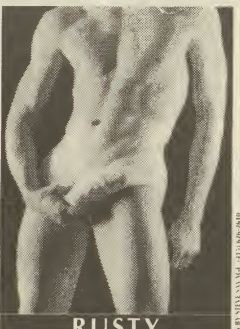
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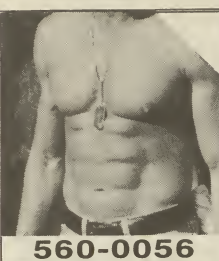
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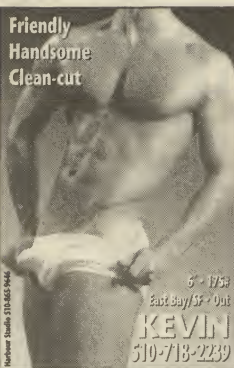


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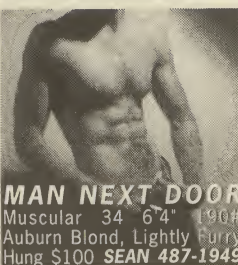
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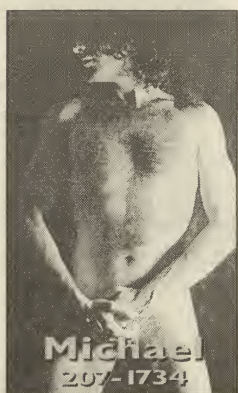
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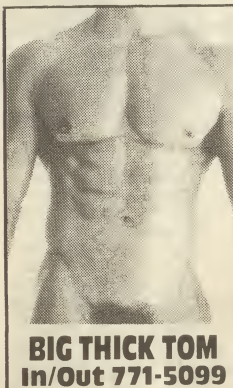
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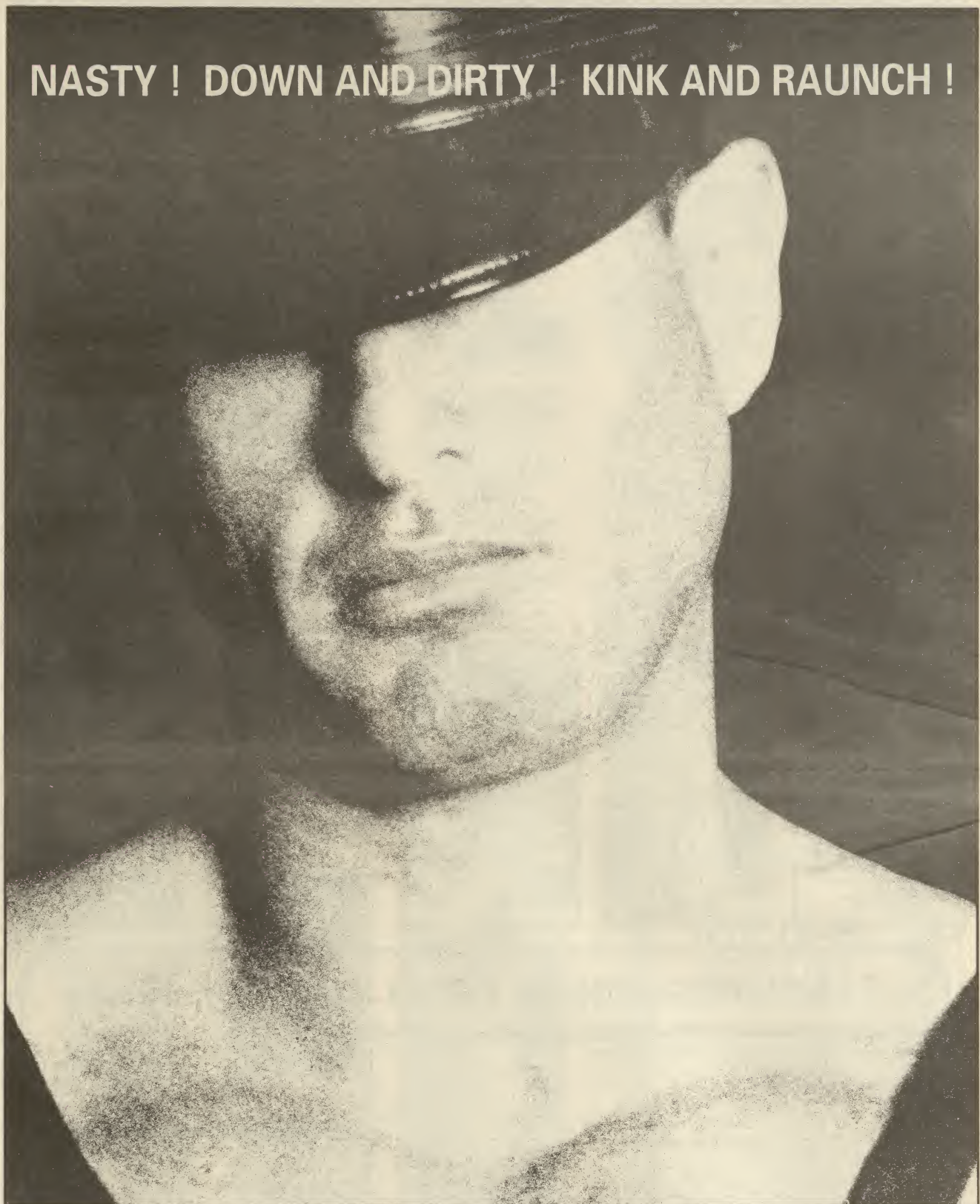
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